Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-90-163
Wednesday
22 August 1990

Daily Report
Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-90-163 22 August 1990

CONTENTS

NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Inter-Arab Affairs

Egypt Asks League To Postpone Ministers' Meeting *[MENA]* 1
Correction to Perez de Cuellar on Persian Gulf 1

Palestinian Affairs

'Arafat Sends Message to PRC on Gulf Crisis *[Algiers VOP]* 1
'Arafat Message to UK Outlines Peace Initiative *[Algiers VOP]* 1
Abu-Sharif Interviewed on Gulf Crisis *[Rome LA REPUBBLICA 18 Aug]* 1
PNC Reportedly To Issue Statement on Crisis *[Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B 21 Aug]* 2
Dissident Leader Urges Arabs To 'Confront' U.S. *[Amman AL-DUSTUR 21 Aug]* 2
PLO Envoy Says Arabs Must Solve Gulf Conflict *[East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND 17 Aug]* 3
Jerusalem Arab Papers Comment on Saddam, Crisis 3
Support for Iraqi 'Initiative' *[Jerusalem AL-QUDS 13 Aug]* 3
Appeal to Syria's Al-Asad *[Jerusalem AL-NAHAR 13 Aug]* 4
Cairo Summit Resolution Criticized *[Jerusalem AL-FAJR 13 Aug]* 4
DFLP Member Killed in Armed Clash in Tunis *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* 5

OPEC Affairs

Saudi Official Comments on Oil Production *[Paris International]* 5

ARAB AFRICA

Algeria

Bendjedid Discusses Gulf With Iraqi Minister *[Algiers TV]* 6

Egypt

VOM Says Saudis Ask for 15,000 Troops 6
Armored Division Slated for Saudi Arabia *[AFP]* 6
Iraqi Tanker Transits Suez Canal to Red Sea *[MENA]* 6
Further on Repatriation Efforts in Jordan 6
35,000 Await Transport *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* 6
Ferry Problems Detailed *[MENA]* 7
Israeli Route Denied *[MENA]* 7
Official Oil Prices Increase 20 Aug *[MENA]* 7
Papers Call for Arab Force; Denounce Saddam *[MENA]* 7
Saddam Reportedly Offered Mubarak Bribe *[AFP]* 8
Mubarak Appeals to Saddam, Arab Nation *[Cairo Radio]* 9
Mubarak Receives Kuwaiti Heir Apparent *[MENA]* 9
Al-Baz, PLO's Al-Hasan Hold 'Frank' Talks *[MENA]* 9
Al-Hasan Leaves for Saudi Arabia *[MENA]* 10
Italian Foreign Minister Holds News Conference *[MENA]* 10
Japanese Foreign Minister Arrives in Cairo *[Cairo Radio]* 11
Received by Mubarak *[MENA]* 11
Saudi Foreign Minister Concludes Visit *[MENA]* 11
Soviet Envoy Concludes Visit, Departs for Sanaa *[MENA]* 11

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi Says U.S. Violates UN Charter *[Tripoli TV]* 11
Al-Qadhdhafi Meets Morocco's Hassan *[Tripoli Radio]* 12

Sudan

Iraqi Fighter Planes Reportedly Arrive at Base *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* 12
Al-Bashir Receives Kuwaiti Amir's Message *[WAKH]* 12
Meets With Al-Sabah Envoy *[SUNA]* 12
Al-Bashir To Visit Arab Countries on Crisis *[Sanaa Radio]* 12
Kuwaiti Ambassador Meets Information Minister *[SUNA]* 12
Minister Goes to Jordan To Discuss Evacuees *[SUNA]* 12
Official Cites 'Crimes Against Public Money' *[SUNA]* 12
SPLA Reports Ambush of Government Convoy *[Radio SPLA]* 13

ARABIAN PENINSULA

Bahrain

Facilities Reportedly Offered to UK Forces *[Cairo Radio]* 14
Amir, U.S. Admiral Discuss Gulf Situation *[WAKH]* 14
Cabinet Reviews Developments in Gulf *[WAKH]* 14

Kuwait

Amir Addresses Nation 22 Aug via Riyadh TV 14
Jerusalem TV Says Foreigners Rounded Up 15
Resistance Leader Reports Iraqi Aircraft Losses *[AL-RIYAD 15 Aug]* 15
Iraqi Troops Commandeer Hospitals *[SPA]* 15
'National Resistance' Destroys Iraqi Vehicles, Tank *[SPA]* 15
AL-SIYASAH To Be Published in Saudi Arabia *[MENA]* 15
Nation Rejects Iraqi Initiative *[SPA]* 16
Foreign Minister Discusses Intervention *[Paris Radio]* 16
Exiled Foreign Minister Al-Sabah Visits France *[cross-reference]* 18

Oman

Japanese Foreign Minister Arrives 19 Aug *[WAKH]* 18
Yemeni Foreign Minister Arrives in Muscat *[WAKH]* 18
Sultan Receives Japanese, Yemeni Ministers *[WAKH]* 18
Japan Supports Multinational Containment of Iraq 18
Nakayama Meets With Foreign Minister *[Tokyo KYODO]* 18
Sultan Urges Japan To Give Nonmilitary Support *[Tokyo KYODO]* 19
Nakayama Departs *[Muscat Radio]* 19
Yemeni Minister Departs *[WAKH]* 20

Qatar

Interior Minister Receives Tunisian Message *[WAKH]* 20

Saudi Arabia

Council of Ministers Issues Statement on Gulf *[Riyadh TV]* 20
Riyadh Emirate to Issue ID Cards for Kuwaitis *[Riyadh TV]* 21
Authorities Refuse To Load Iraqi Tanker *[Cairo Radio]* 21
U.S. Secretary Cheney's Delegation Departs *[SPA]* 21
PLO Envoy Issues Statement on Gulf Crisis *[Riyadh TV]* 21
Fahd Supports Mubarak Call to Iraq *[Riyadh TV]* 22
Oil Minister Meets With Indian Counterpart *[Riyadh Radio]* 22
Italy's De Michelis Meets Press 17 Aug *[Riyadh TV]* 22
King Fahd Cables Ex-Fatah, PLO Official *[Riyadh Radio]* 22

Malian Minister Delivers Message, Departs *[SPA]* 23
Japanese Foreign Minister Arrives in Jeddah *[Riyadh Radio]* 23
Meets With Foreign Minister *[SPA]* 23
Delivers Message to Fahd *[Riyadh TV]* 23
Fahd Receives Message of Support from Sudan *[Riyadh TV]* 23
Commander Reports Units in Place in Saudi Arabia *[MENA]* 23

United Arab Emirates

Cabinet Discusses 'Latest Moves' in Gulf Crisis *[Dubayy Radio]* 24
Further on Cabinet Meeting *[WAKH]* 24
Defense Chief Meets Outgoing Soviet Ambassador *[WAKH]* 24
Indian Minister Arrives in Abu Dhabi *[WAKH]* 24
Defense Minister Meets With Iranian Envoy *[IRNA]* 24
State Minister Meets Saudi, Indian Envoys *[WAKH]* 24

Yemen

Preparations To Intercept Iraqi Tanker Denied *[Aden Radio]* 24
Minister Visits Oman To Explain Peace Efforts *[Sanaa Radio]* 25
Soviet Envoy Arrives To Discuss Gulf Crisis *[Sanaa Radio]* 25
Minister Meets With British, French Envoys *[Sanaa Radio]* 25
PFLP Official Brings Habash Message to Salih *[Sanaa Radio]* 25

IRAQ

Saddam Addresses 21 Aug Letter to Bush *[Baghdad Radio]* 26
Paper Says U.S. Aims To Secure Interests *[INA]* 27
Envoy to UN Cited on Hostage Issue *[London TV]* 28
Assembly Speaker Says Foreigners Safe *[INA]* 29
AFP Lists Number of Foreigners in Iraq, Kuwait 29
Nation To Allow Indians To Return Via Jordan *[Delhi Radio]* 30
National Assembly Warns France Against Blockade *[INA]* 30
Child Care Group Urges Lift of 'Unjust' Blockade *[Baghdad Radio]* 30
Death Sentence Imposed for Harboring Foreigners *[Belgrade TANJUG]* 31
Envoy Returns From Jordan, Yemen, Sudan *[INA]* 31
'Aziz, India's Gujral Discuss Regional Situation *[INA]* 31
Withdrawal From Iranian Territory Completed *[Baghdad Radio]* 31
Fifth Group of POW's Exchanged 21 Aug *[INA]* 31
Presidential Office Sets Clock Forward in Kuwait *[Baghdad Radio]* 31
Youth-Student Body Offers 'Suicide Force' Role *[INA]* 31

ISRAEL

Closure of Straits Would Be 'Causus Belli' *[Jerusalem Radio]* 33
Shamir Says 'No Signs' Husayn 'Losing Control' *[Jerusalem Radio]* 33
Shamir Says More Defense Aid May Be Requested *[THE JERUSALEM POST 22 Aug]* 33
Genscher, De Michelis: Tel Aviv Right on Iraq *[Jerusalem TV]* 33
De Michelis Takes Message From Levi to Amman *[Jerusalem TV]* 33
Officials Astonished by Levi Demand on Masks *[Jerusalem Radio]* 33
Umm Al-Fahm Mayor on 'Boycott' of U.S. Goods *[DAVAR 20 Aug]* 33
Goren on Arab Support for Iraq, Gulf Refugees *[Tel Aviv Radio]* 34
Crisis Causes 'Severe Plunge' in Stock Exchange *[THE JERUSALEM POST 20 Aug]* 35
Incidents in Territories, Comments on Gulf *[THE JERUSALEM POST 21 Aug, etc.]* 35
Commentary Views Intelligence 'Failure' in Gulf *[HA'ARETZ 21 Aug]* 36
New Arabic Paper in Nazareth Attacks Leftists *[THE JERUSALEM POST 22 Aug]* 37
Embassy in Czechoslovakia Reopened After 25 Years *[HADASHOT 20 Aug]* 37
Sharon 'Secretly' Goes Overseas To See Houses *[Jerusalem Radio]* 37
Returns After Visit *[Jerusalem TV]* 38
Soviet Immigration Said Unaffected by Crisis *[Jerusalem Radio]* 38
Neglect in Handling Ethiopian Immigration Denied *[THE JERUSALEM POST 20 Aug]* 38

JORDAN

Iraq's Tariq 'Aziz Arrives in Amman 21 Aug *[INA]* 39
Briefed by King on U.S. Visit *[Amman TV]* 39
Holds News Conference *[AL-DUSTUR 22 Aug]* 39
Egyptians Riot To Protest Delay at Al-'Aqabah *[VOL]* 40
Spokesman on Delay *[Amman TV]* 40
More Than 5,000 Foreigners Arrive From Kuwait *[AFP]* 41
Editorial Says 'Every Westerner a Target' *[AL-RA'Y 22 Aug]* 41
Jordanian, Algerian Parliaments Support Iraq *[Amman TV]* 42
Paper Says U.S. Rejects Negotiation *[AL-DUSTUR 22 Aug]* 42

LEBANON

Reportage on Constitutional Amendment Debate 43
Cabinet Holds Emergency Session *[RFL]* 43
Chamber Studies Bill *[Beirut Radio]* 43
Parliament Approves Amendments *[VOL]* 43
Al-Hirawi Hails Ratification *[Beirut Radio]* 43
Amendments Detailed; Leaders Comment *[RFL]* 44
LF Source Comments *[VOL]* 44
Syria's Al-Asad Congratulates Al-Hirawi *[RFL]* 45
Reportage on Al-Maradah Forces' 'Uprising' 45
Zgharta Road Cut, Positions Taken Over *[RFL]* 45
Ibdin Radio Suspended *[VOL]* 45
VOM Reports 45
All Al-Maradah Centers Taken Over *[RFL]* 46
Iqlim Al-Tuffah, Southern Suburb Clashes Continue *[RFL]* 46
Israeli Planes Break Sound Barrier Over Beirut *[RFL]* 46
Southern Towns Shelled; Israelis Ambush Amal *[VOM]* 46
Amal-Hizballah Clash Reported in West Beirut *[Beirut Radio]* 46
Fighting Abates *[VOL]* 46

SYRIA

Troops Prepare for Saudi Arabia Service *[Damascus Radio]* 47
Al-Asad, Lebanon's Al-Hirawi Hold Secret Summit *[RFL]* 47
Postponement of Ministers Meeting Requested *[SANA]* 47
Al-Zu'bi Briefs Cabinet on Gulf Crisis *[Damascus Radio]* 47
'Dialogue Among Brothers' Recommended to Iraq *[Damascus Radio]* 47
Algerian Officials Confer With Assembly Speaker *[Damascus Radio]* 48
Meet With Khaddam *[Damascus Radio]* 48
Al-Shar' Conveys Message to Mubarak, Returns *[Damascus Radio]* 48

SOUTH ASIA

Afghanistan

Prime Minister Meets Ethnic Group Elders *[BAKHTAR]* 49
Defense Deputy Holds News Conference 20 Aug *[BAKHTAR]* 49
Wakil Remarks on Talks in Switzerland *[Kabul Radio]* 49
Extremists' Rockets Hit Kabul, Wound Civilians *[BAKHTAR]* 49

Bangladesh

Foreign Office To Maintain Embassy in Kuwait *[Dhaka Radio]* 50
Official Cites Iraqi Recruitment of Volunteers *[AFP]* 50

India

Gujral To Return to Delhi With Indians 21 Aug *[Delhi Radio]* 50
Extends Baghdad Stay *[Delhi Radio]* 50

1,410 Nationals Repatriated; More To Follow *[Delhi Radio]* 51
More Return; Parliament Concerned *[Delhi Radio]* 51
Measures Announced To Reduce Gas Consumption *[Delhi Radio]* 51
Singh, Parliament Discuss Pakistan Border Clashes *[Delhi Radio]* 51
Lok Sabha Approves Legislation for Kashmir, Jammu *[Delhi Radio]* 52
Further on Border Clashes; Beg Urges Vigilance *[AFP]* 52
Kashmiri Militants Held; Sikhs Threatened *[Delhi Radio]* 52
President Calls For High Military Preparedness *[Delhi Radio]* 52
Youths To Build Fence on Indo-Pakistani Border *[Delhi Radio]* 53
Alleged Imposition of Hindi Language Protested 53
Said To Encourage Secessionists *[Delhi Radio]* 53
Minister Clarifies Language Policy *[Delhi Radio]* 53
Parties Say Tamil Nadu Source of LTTE Arms *[LANKAPUVATH]* 53
Punjab Akali Dal-Mann Faction President Resigns *[Delhi Radio]* 53
Minister Discusses Cambodia With Thai Delegation *[Delhi Radio]* 53

Iran

Habibi Claims National 'Control' of Gulf *[IRNA]* 53
Kuwait Realizes 'Grave Mistake' of Supporting Iraq *[Tehran Radio]* 54
Karrubi Condemns U.S. Presence, Iraqi Invasion *[Tehran Radio]* 54
Majles Deputies See U.S. Moves as 'Challenge' *[IRNA]* 55
Paper Terms U.S. Gulf Build-up 'Untolerable' *[IRNA]* 55
Velayati Urges Regional Solution to Gulf Crisis *[Tehran Radio]* 56
10,000 Nationals Return From Kuwait *[Tehran Radio]* 56
Situation Called 'Chaotic' *[Tehran Radio]* 56
Paper Urges Reuniting Kuwait With OPEC *[IRNA]* 56
Reportage on Iraqi POW Exchange, Withdrawal 57
Fifth Group of POW's Arrives *[IRNA]* 57
Returning POW's To Receive Cash Award *[IRNA]* 57
POW Exchange Flight Set Up *[IRNA]* 57
Teams To Inspect Relinquished Areas *[Tehran Radio]* 57
POW Exchange Accelerates *[IRNA]* 57
Velayati Briefs Majles *[IRNA]* 57
Pakistani Foreign Minister Says Talks 'Positive' *[Tehran Radio]* 58
Lebanon's Junblatt Discusses Ties With Velayati *[Tehran Radio]* 58
Discusses Support Against Israel *[Tehran Radio]* 58
Musavi-Ardabili Delivers 17 Aug Friday Prayers *[Tehran Radio]* 58
Velayati Qualifies Meaning of Real Independence *[Tehran Radio]* 59
*RESALAT Report on 15 Jul Majles Session *[16 Jul]* 59

Pakistan

Kashmir Premier Calls For Military Training *[London International]* 64
Speaks at 'Kashmir Rally' *[THE MUSLIM 21 Aug]* 65
Remarks at Rally Criticized *[Islamabad International]* 65
Spokesman Confirms Border Skirmishes With India *[Islamabad Radio]* 66
Jatoi Clarifies Troop Dispatch to Saudi Arabia *[Islamabad Radio]* 66
Premier on Elections, Changes in Administration *[Islamabad Radio]* 66
Parliament Membership Disqualification Rule Issued *[Islamabad Radio]* 67
Spokesman Clarifies Ban on Visits Abroad *[Islamabad Radio]* 67
Sweeping Powers Given to Special Tribunals *[Delhi Radio]* 67
Minister Criticizes Previous Government Policies *[Islamabad Radio]* 67
Commission Calls for Lifting State of Emergency *[Delhi Radio]* 68
'Malpractices' Alleged for Bhutto Government *[Islamabad Radio]* 68
Bhutto, Party Continue To React to Dismissal 68
Prevented From Governing Freely *[AFP]* 68
Chairs Party Meeting in Rawalpindi *[Islamabad Radio]* 69
Assembly Dissolution 'Unconstitutional' *[Islamabad Radio]* 69
PPP Demands Accountability *[Islamabad Radio]* 69
PPP Files Lawsuit *[THE MUSLIM 22 Aug]* 69

Former Balochistan Chief Forms National Party *[THE MUSLIM 17 Aug]* 69
Cabinet Views Evacuation of Citizens From Gulf *[Islamabad Radio]* 70
Paper Criticizes U.S. Deployment in Saudi Arabia *[THE NATION 18 Aug]* 70
Editorial Criticizes Saddam's 'Hostages' Ploy *[THE NATION 21 Aug]* 70
'Relevant Laws' To Apply to Soviet Hijackers *[Islamabad Radio]* 71
PRC Nuclear Energy Minister Meets Ishaq Khan *[Islamabad Radio]* 71

Sri Lanka

Iraqi Ship Waits at Port To Load Tea Cargo *[Colombo International]* 71
Flights Added To Evacuate Citizens in Gulf Area *[Colombo International]* 71
Delhi Reports Air Force Bombing in Jaffna *[Delhi Radio]* 72
Statistics Detail 1989 Industrial Growth *[LANKAPUVATH]* 72

Inter-Arab Affairs

Egypt Asks League To Postpone Ministers' Meeting

NC2108163090 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1612 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, 21 Aug (MENA)—Egypt has asked the Arab League General Secretariat to postpone for a few days the Arab foreign ministers emergency meeting scheduled for 26 August, a responsible source at the Foreign Ministry said today.

Correction to Perez de Cuellar on Persian Gulf

PY2108154090

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Perez de Cuellar Comments on Mideast Situation," subheaded "Further Comments on Persian Gulf," published in the 21 August Near East & South Asia DAILY REPORT, page 1. Column two, paragraph 11, last sentence should read ....President Patricio Aylwin. [passage omitted] [new graf]

[Begin recording] [passage omitted] [Reporter] What can... (clarifying editorial notes, adding "begin recording" notation)

Palestinian Affairs

'Arafat Sends Message to PRC on Gulf Crisis

LD1808185190 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 18 Aug 90

[Text] The brother president leader, Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has sent an urgent message to the Chinese leadership concerning the serious situation in the Gulf region. It is worth noting that the brother president leader has exchanged messages with the Chinese leadership twice over the past 24 hours on the serious situation in the Arabian Gulf. Brother President Abu-'Ammar's efforts to find an Arab political solution to the Middle East crisis in general and the Gulf crisis in particular are noteworthy as well.

'Arafat Message to UK Outlines Peace Initiative

LD1808190390 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 18 Aug 90

[Text] Brother President Leader Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] has sent an urgent message to the British Government on the form and content of the Palestinian Arab initiative to find an Arab political solution to the Gulf crisis and linking that solution to a comprehensive solution to the Middle East crisis.

Abu-Sharif Interviewed on Gulf Crisis

PM2108115690 Rome LA REPUBBLICA in Italian 18 Aug 90 p 5

[Interview with Bassam Abu-Sharif, adviser to PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, by Guido Barendson in Tunis; date not given]

[Excerpt] Tunis—[passage omitted] Having aligned completely with Iraq at the Cairo summit, 'Arafat has counterattacked. He is offering a most ambitious package deal: The Iraqis must withdraw from Kuwait, followed by the Israelis, solidly installed in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, and the Syrians, who control a large portion of Lebanon.

[Barendson] Mr. Abu-Sharif, this seems to be a mere reformulation of Saddam's proposals—those which Bush dismissed as "vulgar propaganda." Furthermore, if nobody has succeeded in removing them for 30 years, why should the Israeli Government change its mind now, at the very time when the weight of the Iraqi threat looms over it?

[Abu-Sharif] Bush said "no" because, using the pretext of Kuwait, he wants to gain control over the oil and not because the proposal does not include some important negotiational elements. But, just as Israel is settling tens of thousands of immigrants in the occupied territories, the U.S. Administration must realize that, if it really is seeking a comprehensive peace agreement, this is a major opportunity.

[Barendson] 'Arafat and his supporters are fond of paradoxes. They are unconcerned by accusations of being the only ones who still side with the bloodthirsty Ba'thist regime, nor do they have the least suspicion that they are acting on his behalf. The PLO not only denies that it is aligned with Saddam but, on the contrary, it believes that the Gulf crisis can open the way to calming all the hotbeds of crisis in the Middle East.

[Abu-Sharif] It is not true at all that we aligned completely with Saddam's positions in Cairo. We tried to avoid speaking out in order to maintain the neutrality that enables us to come forward as serious mediators.

[Barendson] Nevertheless you emerged from the summit with some broken bones—first ignored by pro-American moderate leaders such as Mubarak and Fahd and then identified as the last accomplices of the invaders of Kuwait. Only once before were you treated so badly at a League summit—in Amman in 1987, at the extraordinary meeting on the Iran-Iraq war, when King Husayn snubbed 'Arafat and when, unprecedentedly, the Palestinian issue was no longer at the top of the agenda. Did Mubarak and Fahd decide on the outcome before Cairo? Do you not believe that they simply needed to secure a guarantee for military intervention parallel to America's?

[Abu-Sharif] Yes. Particularly because when the Egyptian president called the meeting we had already succeeded in bringing about an agreement between King Fahd and

Saddam Husayn on a two-man meeting, with an open agenda including Kuwait. Our aim was to reach a solution acceptable to all: We were prevented from doing so.

[Barendson] Be that as it may, there is no more talk of the Palestinian question, still less of your most complicated dialogue with Washington.

[Abu-Sharif] Those who believe that the essential area of the Middle Eastern crisis is simply that of the Gulf are greatly mistaken. The fact that the dialogue here in Tunis is suspended does not mean at all that we are not continuing to exchange our respective viewpoints. You can write this in black and white: The PLO is making a huge effort to make Bush realize that there is room for a negotiated political solution.

[Barendson] On 15 August 'Arafat received Italy's ambassador in Tunis, Claudio Moreno, partly in his capacity as representative of the EEC duty chairmanship. Is this the communication channel with the United States?

[Abu-Sharif] Certainly. 'Arafat is talking with everyone. With Mitterrand, with Mrs. Thatcher, with the Soviet Union, and with China. He has asked the Europeans to convey the message to Bush. He gave Moreno a special message for Andreotti and De Michelis [Italian prime minister and foreign minister, respectively] to be forwarded subsequently to Washington. What are we proposing? I will not go into detail. But our aim is to defuse a situation that is about to explode. We say that a political solution is still feasible. If America persists with the use of military force, the alternative is a disaster, because Iraq would unleash a reprisal in all directions—an explosion that would seriously damage the Middle East and Europe. So it is in the interests of the entire world not to jeopardize this vital area, for the sake of future strategic balances and of the economy based on oil exploitation. True, it will be very hard to reach an understanding; it will take a great deal, but, I stress: The alternative is a disaster.

[Barendson] Do you not believe that it is too late to try to involve the EEC countries, after they have accepted, albeit in various ways, Bush's appeal to intervene?

[Abu-Sharif] No. I believe, rather, that at a time when we are witnessing increasing consensus among the Arabs on our initiative, it would be a huge achievement if, together with Europe, we were to prove capable to halting the war machine. This is why we would like to receive Andreotti and De Michelis and the Community troika here, in order to brief them and to discuss the only possible solution—ours.

[Barendson] But in the eyes of the majority of European governments, the PLO lost many points at the Cairo summit.

[Abu-Sharif] Look, the problem is not the PLO. It is the Arab world that is changing. Just like Eastern Europe, it is demanding democracy, freedom, and justice. On the one hand there are still millions and millions of impoverished, hungry people, and on the other the dominant few multimillionaires. It is not right, and the change is becoming irreversible, irrespective of the wishes of U.S. administrations and of the regimes installed and supported by America—the regimes that have ruined the Arabs' image everywhere.

[Barendson] Yes, but the tragedy is that the Arab masses are now going into the streets to fervently demonstrate support for a dictator such as Saddam and not a statesman worthy of respect.

[Abu-Sharif] Do not forget that few Arab leaders can boast democratic credentials and can call another "brother" a dictator. Of course Saddam has taken up this feeling, this desire for innovation, and if he has won so much popular support it is because he has spoken about pride, unity, and the Arab nation, but above all because he has promised economic development and the elimination of poverty. Let us hope that America understands this. America always lags behind.

PNC Reportedly To Issue Statement on Crisis

JN2108082990 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 21 Aug 90 First Edition p 1

[Text] Amman, SAWT AL-SHA'B—SAWT AL-SHA'B has learned that members of the Palestine National Council [PNC] residing in Jordan will meet tomorrow, Wednesday, under PNC Speaker Shaykh 'Abd-al-Hamid al-Sa'ih to discuss the latest developments in the Arabian Gulf, the PLO's position on these developments, and the Palestinian initiative to defuse tension in the region.

The PNC members will listen to a report from Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, on the PLO's position on the Gulf crisis and Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat's efforts in this regard.

It was also learned that the PNC will issue a statement reaffirming its stand on the Gulf Crisis.

Dissident Leader Urges Arabs To 'Confront' U.S.

JN2108121990 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 21 Aug 90 p 9

[Excerpts] Damascus—Abu-Khalid al-'Amlah, assistant secretary general of Fatah-the Uprising, [title as published] has urged the Arab nation to comprehensively confront the imperialist invasion led by the United States against the Arab region, its resources, and the future of its sons, using the pretext of what happened between Iraq and Kuwait in an attempt to strike at every Arab effort for resurgence and liberation from domination and for liberating the lands from occupation.

Abu-Khalid called on the sons of the Arabian Peninsula and the Arabian Gulf in particular and the Arab masses in general to confront the imperialist invasion and strike at U.S. interests throughout the Arab homeland. He also urged them to protect Jordan and to prevent it from

falling prey to the imperialist-Zionist aggression whose leaders are drawing up a hellish scheme to invade it.

This came in a speech delivered by al-'Amlah at a graduation ceremony for trainees enrolled at martyr Kamal al-Sid's course attended by a number of members of the Revolutionary Council, the movement's cadres, and representatives of Arab liberation movements in Damascus on Saturday, 18 August. [passage omitted]

Al-'Amlah affirmed that the Americans have not come to protect us and restore our rights but to protect their satellite regimes and their own interests. He added that our nation, with its strugglers, is capable of inflicting defeat on them, just as Vietnam and Cuba did. He called for sparing Iraq a catastrophe and said: Iraq is our Iraq and the Iraq of the entire Arab nation. All revolutionary forces are urged to brush aside their trivial problems and differences because the future of our nation would be determined by our ability to foil the invasion. He affirmed that what is taking place right now does not target the person of Saddam Husayn, but rather the Iraqi Army and Arab armies. He said: This is designed to maintain the humiliation of the nation and its inability to build its strength under the current world changes. This is a cause for continuing our people's militant march which is part of the history of our nation's struggle. This is achievable by building the instruments of the revolution, along with all Arab strugglers, with the aim of liberating our lands to help achieve unity and progress. [passage omitted]

Concluding his speech, al-'Amlah said that Arab lands are threatened with invasion and a hellish scheme is targeting Jordan. He added: The enemies' leaders have not concealed their hostile intentions. This requires that we secure all requirements of struggle to protect Jordan and prevent it from falling prey to the imperialist-Zionist aggression.

[Signed] The Central Information Department, Damascus

[Dated] 18 August 1990

PLO Envoy Says Arabs Must Solve Gulf Conflict

AU2008143790 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 17 Aug 90 p 4

[Report on interview with PLO Ambassador Da'ud Barakat by Lothar Pilz in East Berlin on 16 August: "A Solution in the Gulf Can Only Be an Arab one"]

[Text] The appeals of Iraqi President Saddam Husayn to pan-Arab and religious feelings have met with considerable response in Jordan and other Arab countries. In Amman, a "People's Committee on the Defense of the Arab Nation" has been created. According to Arab wire dispatches, about 60,000 volunteers have registered who are ready to take up arms and fight for Iraq and against the United States. Among them are reportedly between 40,000 and 50,000 Palestinians whose families must live abroad, because the Israelis have occupied their home country.

Da'ud Barakat, ambassador of the state of Palestine to the GDR, said about this phenomenon in a NEUES DEUTSCHLAND interview on Thursday [16 August] that while the state of Palestine is a member of the United Nations organization and respects its resolutions, the Palestinians as individuals see themselves primarily as Arabs with very clear national patriotic feelings. They want to put up resistance to the massive U.S. presence in the Gulf and in the Arab Peninsula. This U.S. presence constitutes a danger to the resources of the Arab world, because they threaten to fall under U.S. control, said the ambassador.

He does not believe that the United States and other forces that are militarily involved in the Gulf have an unselfish interest in defending the Kuwaiti people's right of self-determination. Rather, they seek to gain hegemony over the world's most important oil centers, said the ambassador. It is known that now, at the end of the 20th century, Kuwait, Iraq, and Saudi Arabia hold two thirds of the global oil reserves, stressed the ambassador.

The Palestinians, however, feel these regions must remain in Arab hands in the future also. Barakat says that logically, a solution to the serious conflicts can only be an Arab one.

Asked about the PLO's position on the Iraqi aggression against Kuwait, Barakat said that the state of Palestine and the PLO, being members of the pan-Arab family and the international community, are basically opposed to any occupation, no matter by which side. He said, however, that the fact should be taken into account that the PLO bears special responsibility because it acted as a mediator and was recognized as such by Iraq and Kuwait, before the armed conflict broke out between them. He added that a mediator cannot accuse or plead guilty.

According to the ambassador, at the Cairo summit meeting, the PLO was suddenly confronted with a project justifying and legitimizing the U.S. military presence in the Gulf and the Middle East. The PLO had no alternative but to vote against the decision, even more so since the discussion of a Palestinian proposal was prevented by U.S. friends in the Arab League.

Ambassador Barakat said that for him as a Palestinian Arab, the Gulf conflict is very regrettable—not least also because it diverts international attention from the crucial issue of the Middle East problem—the Palestinian problem—and the intifadah.

Jerusalem Arab Papers Comment on Saddam, Crisis

Support for Iraqi 'Initiative'

NC2108115790 Jerusalem AL-QUDS in Arabic 13 Aug 90 p 7

[Unattributed editorial: "International Legitimacy Is Indivisible]

[Text] The political initiative made by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn contains positive elements that can, if

implemented, spare the region and the world the perils of starting an atrocious and merciless war of unspeakable consequences.

First of all, we reiterate our complete commitment to the sovereignty of Kuwait, its territorial integrity, and its stability. This commitment is part of our respect for international norms, laws, and conventions which unamiguously prohibit the use of force in occupying the land of other countries.

As for the initiative of the Iraqi president, the UN secretary general and the leaders of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council have an historical duty to draw a map for the Middle East that is based on dialogue, cooperation, peace, and stability, in accordance with the indivisible international legitimacy.

The Middle East region and its peoples are currently at an historically unprecedented juncture. The Middle East will either enter the coming century on vehicles of war, mass destruction, and death, or on vehicles of mutual respect, recognition of the full rights of all sides, cooperation, and peace.

This is the time to save the Middle East from the whirlwind of wars and establish the right of the peoples of the region to live in peace and security—like the rest of nations in the world—and be spared the practices of hegemony, the threats, and the imposition of status quo. It has become clear that a massive fire can sweep over the entire region if the great dangers engulfing the region are not properly understood.

International responsibility, the international laws and conventions, and the UN Security Council resolutions are all indivisible concepts. The United States should understand that its attempt to find more than one interpretation to international law will certainly destroy its credibility.

Appeal to Syria's Al-Asad

NC2108120690 Jerusalem AL-NAHAR in Arabic 13 Aug 90 pp 1,11

[AL-NAHAR editorial: "Appeal to Arabism's al-Asad"]

[Text] The decision of some Arab states to deploy forces alongside the "west's Arabs" and in the same treach of the invading "foreign" forces is rejected. News agency reports on the participation of Syrians in this force is not only surprising and astonishing but causes indignation and anger. It is rather impossible for the capital of the Omayyads, the cradle of modern Arab history and bastion of Arab nationalism, to stand except on the side of the Arab masses and their aspirations for unity and freedom. Therefore, we do not want to believe that President Hafiz al-Asad has changed his position after all these years, when he was a symbol of Arab struggle and shouldered, despite all the difficult circumstances, the responsibility of standing fast in the face of the ambitions against the entire Arab nation. He has never retreated from his honorable stands, but has always been a defendant of Arab nationalism against collapse, despite the vicious plot which has faced and continues to face our nation.

Therefore, the masses of our Arab nation from the Ocean to the Gulf view the steps adopted during the emergency Arab summit conference, which gave the green light to any Arab state to participate in the invading Western forces deployed on Saudi territory, as the most dangerous development that has faced our nation in modern history.

The militant ties and deep roots which have entrenched themselves in the Arab world throughout history—and which have always foiled foreign invasions and plots against our Arab nation—make it incumbent upon steadfast and beloved Syria to be on the other side to contain the courses of the current developments and enhance the struggle and raise the morale of the Arab masses everywhere. These masses are aware as a result of their genuine national consciousness that valiant Syria, which has achieved a miracle in the glorious October war and which has foiled all the plots hatched against the Arabs and their legitimate rights, has no place except with the free struggle. The Arab nation is passing through its most serious stages. Either we will be free or we will not.

From here, from the occupied Palestinian land, the land of the Prophet's night journey, from near the al-Aqsa Mosque, we address an urgent appeal to President Hafiz al-Asad to stand—and behind him the fraternal Syrian people—firmly on the side of Iraq, which is facing the most vicious imperialist campaign.

Mr. President, you are called upon to put aside all the secondary differences, which stand as a barrier between Damascus and Baghdad, to give a chance to every sincere effort to safeguard the freedom of this glorious nation and the unity of the homelands.

We are living through momentous times which could determine the fate and future of our nation. Therefore, we appeal to you, in the name of every martyr who fell on Arab soil everywhere and in the name of the bereaved and widows to bolster Arab struggle in order to defeat the enemies of this nation so it will remain free and proud.

Cairo Summit Resolution Criticized

NC2108164090 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic 13 Aug 90 pp 1,11

[Editorial: "The Suspect Resolution and the Rubber-stamp Endorsers"]

[Text] There is one fact that we will have no qualms about repeating or shouting until the very stones hear us.

This fact is that the Arab people have been tried in modern times with the kind of leaders, if we may use the word "leaders," who are the worst and most incapable in their history.

This is because one would expect that when the nation, any nation, is facing disturbances, troubles, and new developments, the leaders of that nation should act promptly to undertake reforms and tackle the situation in the best possible manner.

However, the emergency Arab summit held in Cairo a few days ago only made us laugh at the sad fate of the Arab nation.

For, instead of deciding the matter by consultations, and instead of having each king, president, shaykh, and amir, "some of whom are regrettably leaders," voice his opinion, their decision was the result of blackmail by "their big brother" whom we thought would save the situation. But he, with extreme arrogance enhanced by a shameful pursuit of blind agentry, compounded matters and, together with all the others who supported the resolution, shamed the entire nation.

The resolution came as an umbrella for the invaders' armies and fleets because it sought to involve Arab armies in "fighting" on the side of those invading armies and fleets, instead of demanding the departure of foreigners from the land of the two holy mosques, the "custodian" of which has asked the United States and its foreign and so-called Arab followers to enter his country (is it really his country?) to fight Iraq under the false excuse that Iraqi President Saddam Husayn intends to invade Saudi Arabia.

As to the "big brother" and some of his brother "leaders," he has sent and they will send or already have sent their armies to Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states to fight Iraq. What apparent deceit and what blind reorganization?!!

But we take consolation in the stand taken by President Yasir 'Arafat and some of the sage Arab leaders who refused to support the "resolution" which was prepared by the "big brother" as a trap for them all and for the entire Arab nation.

To hell with those who have prepared the resolution and to hell with who rubber-stamped it. Only right will triumph.

DFLP Member Killed in Armed Clash in Tunis

JN2108071890 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Commenting on a reported armed clash two days ago in an office belonging to the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] in Tunis, an official DFLP spokesman said the clash occurred as a result of a sabotage attempt by elements belonging to a hostile intelligence service which infiltrated Tunis within the framework of sabotage acts aimed at the PLO and its factions. He added that an armed clash occurred when they tried to infiltrate one of the DFLP offices and that a DFLP member was killed and an assailant was wounded. The assailant, he said, confessed to the Tunisian security organs shortly before his death the mission entrusted to him. The DFLP spokesman did not elaborate.

OPEC Affairs

Saudi Official Comments on Oil Production

LD2108104890 Paris International Service in French 0630 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Saudi Arabia is threatening to go it alone if OPEC does not raise production. An emergency meeting of oil producers demanded by Riyadh was not able to take place, with most of the OPEC member-countries opposed to it. I suggest that we listen to the Saudi Arabian ambassador to France, Jamil al-Hujaylan: to Edmond Sadaka:

[Begin recording] We want this decision—that is the decision to increase production—to be made within OPEC in order to avoid any weakening of this organization. However, if OPEC does not reach an agreement which responds to the needs of the world, then Saudi Arabia will do what it considers good for its interests. [end recording]

Algeria

Bendjedid Discusses Gulf With Iraqi Minister

LD2008202790 Algiers Television Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] President Chadli Bendjedid today received at his summer headquarters in Oran emissaries from the Mauritanian and Iraqi presidents.

Among President Chadli Bendjedid's activities have been his meetings this morning at his residence in Ras Andalus in Oran with Major Sid Ahmed Ould Baba, Mauritanian minister of interior, and special emissary of President Maaouiya Ould Sid Ahmed Taya.

During the audience, which was attended by Foreign Minister Sid Ahmed Ghozali, President Chadli was handed a message from his counterpart, the Mauritanian president, concerning the situation in the Gulf.

President Chadli Bendjedid also received Munzir Ibrahim al-Shawi,Munzir Ibrahim al-Shawi, the Iraqi minister of higher education and special emissary of President Saddam Husayn at midday today. The audience was attended by Foreign Minister Sid Ahmed Ghozali and, on the Iraqi side, by Baghdad's ambassador to Algiers.

During the audience, the Iraqi emissary handed President Chadli a written message from President Saddam Husayn, a matter that was confirmed by Munzir Ibrahim al-Shawi.

[Begin al-Shawi recording] As an emissary of President Saddam Husayn, I handed a written message to President Chadli Bendjedid, the president of the Algerian Republic, which expresses the appreciation, gratitude, and confidence of President Saddam Husayn in the people, president, and government of Algeria. During the audience with which we were honored, there was an exchange of views with President Chadli Bendjedid which, I think, was of benefit to Iraq and to the Arab homeland. [end recording]

Egypt

VOM Says Saudis Ask for 15,000 Troops

NC2008060590 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0430 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Saudi Arabia officially asked Egypt yesterday to increase the number of its troops in Saudi Arabia to 15,000. The request was made during the meeting in Cairo [as heard] between Saudi Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak.

In addition, Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid said that his country will withdraw its forces only when asked to do so by the Saudi Government.

Armored Division Slated for Saudi Arabia

NC2108134090 Paris AFP in English 1313 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Egypt has decided to send an entire armored division to Saudi Arabia, a move that could bring its total troop strength in the kingdom to 15,000 men, reliable sources said here Tuesday.

Tanks, personnel and anti-air defense systems are already on their way to Saudi Arabia, where Egypt has deployed an estimated 3,000 troops as part of an Arab force to bolster Saudi defenses against an attack from Iraqi forces in Kuwait.

U.S. Defense Secretary Dick Cheney meanwhile arrived here and began talks with the Egyptian defense minister, General Yusuf Sabri Abu-Talib, the Middle East News Agency reported.

Mr. Cheney in the last two days has been in Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, where he inspected U.S. forces deployed there in the aftermath of Iraq's August 2 invasion of Kuwait. He also visited Bahrain, Oman and Qatar.

Iraqi Tanker Transits Suez Canal to Red Sea

NC2008143590 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1314 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Ismailia, 20 Aug (MENA)—The Iraqi oil tanker al-Mustansiriyah transited the Suez Canal today as part of the south-bound convoy heading for the Red Sea.

The tanker transited the Suez Canal on 7 August as part of the north-bound convoy on its way to the Mediterranean, but it could not reach its port of destination because of the international boycott and control of Iraqi ships and tankers. The tanker spent eight days in the Mediterranean, then returned today to transit the canal without specifying which Red Sea country it was destined for. The tanker is carrying 83,000 tons of petroleum products.

Further on Repatriation Efforts in Jordan

35,000 Await Transport

JN2008133890 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Randah Habib dispatch from Amman]

[Text] Salim Masa'idah, Jordanian deputy prime minister and interior minister, has confirmed the presence of 35,000 Egyptians in four assembly points between the border post of al-Ruwayshid and the Port of al-'Aqabah, awaiting to be transported to their country.

Masa'idah told our radio that Jordan, which is rendering all services to these Egyptians, has asked the Egyptian Government to speed up the process of transporting its nationals who came to the kingdom from Iraq and Kuwait.

Masa'idah explained that the sea route between al-'Aqabah and Nuwaybi' can no more absorb the immense number of travelers, and that this calls for reactivating the al-'Aqabah-Suez route continuously. He also pointed out that Egypt proposed setting up an air bridge between Cairo and Amman or al-'Aqabah, so as to transport its nationals. He expressed hope that this initiative would be implemented soon.

Within the same context, 33 out of the 50 buses which Egypt promised to sent to Jordan arrived today in al-'Aqabah to help transport its nationals from al-Ruwayshid border post. Meanwhile, an Iraqi plane arrived today from Baghdad carrying 300 passengers, including 5 Frenchmen and the Norwegian ambassador to Iraq.

Ferry Problems Detailed

NC2008205290

[Editorial report] Cairo MENA in Arabic at 0852 GMT on 20 August reports in an Amman-datelined item that "Minister Plenipotentiary Ramzi 'Allam, charge d'affaires at the Egyptian Embassy in Jordan, has said that 36,000 Egyptians who are returning from Kuwait and Iraq are currently in Jordan. The returning Egyptians have a large number of private automobiles with them, which makes the task of transporting them on the ferries linking al-'Aqabah and Nuwaybi' more difficult, he added.

"'Allam noted that there are three ferries operating on the al- Nuwaybi'-al-'Aqabah line, which can transport 6,000 passengers and 500 vehicles a day. He mentioned that a new maritime line has begun operation between al-'Aqabah and Suez. The two ferries that work on that line can transport 3,200 passengers and 400 cars per trip.

"'Allam mentioned that intenstive contacts are being held with the competent authorities in Egypt to find a quick solution to the problem of crowding among the Egyptians transiting through Jordan."

At 1207 GMT on 20 August, Cairo MENA in Arabic carries a Cairo-datelined item which says: "Engineer Sulayman Mutawalli, minister of transport and communication, today stated that 11,100 Egyptian nationals and 324 cars arrived today from al-'Aqabah to Nuwaybi' on their way home from Kuwait and Iraq.

"The minister said the Egyptians were transported by the ferries Farah, al-Husayn, and al-'Arish in four voyages."

Israeli Route Denied

NC2008211390 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2100 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, 20 Aug (MENA)—An official source at the Foreign Ministry has denied the claims by some radios in the region that Egyptians traveling from Iraq to Egypt are returning through Israel. The source said these claims are untrue.

Official Oil Prices Increase 20 Aug

NC2008115090 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1034 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Excerpt] Cairo, 20 Aug (MENA)—The price of Egyptian oil has been increased as of today by $2.25 a barrel.

This was stated by a responsible source in the petroleum corporation today. He said that the prices will be as follows:

Khalij al-Zayt and Ra's al-Bihar crude: $26.80.
Suez Gulf crude: $26.50.
Bala'im crude: $25.65.
Badran crude: $24.50.
Gharib crude: $24.20. [passage omitted]

Papers Call for Arab Force; Denounce Saddam

NC2008153090 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0624 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Excerpts] Cairo, 21 Aug (MENA)—Egyptian papers today continue to focus on the developments in the tense situation in the Gulf and the intensive consultations President Husni Mubarak is holding in an effort to prevent an outbreak of fighting in the region and to find a peaceful solution and save human life.

The news that Iraq has detained foreign nationals, particularly U.S. citizens and Western Europeans, to use them as a human shield to deter military attack against it, as well as the angry world reaction to that move, is the theme of the main headlines in AL-AKHBAR, AL-AHRAM, and AL-JUMHURIYAH. The three newspapers carry articles by leading journalists commenting on the crisis in the Gulf and analyzing its causes, developments, and possible consequences.

Concerning the volatile situation in the Gulf, AL-AHRAM calls on the Arabs to form special forces to intervene in case of inter-Arab crises. When push comes to shove and reconciliation is impossible, the paper says, such forces will act as early warning battalions to deter the enemies of the Arab people.

In its editorial, AL-AHRAM writes that the existence of Arab deterrence forces will give muscle and credibility to the Arab resolutions and make a potential Arab aggressor think twice. Such forces will boost the stature of the Arab League and underscore the League's seriousness in dealing with any transgression. The forces will also serve as an implicit warning to any foreign aggressor and will avert the need to request foreign forces.

AL-AHRAM writes that the Arab League has the statutory power to establish such forces, but it tends to act slowly and sometimes ineffectively. The newspaper notes that both NATO and the Warsaw Pact were economic and political alliances that took on a military form. Under the headline "Another Nail in the Tyrant's Coffin," AL-AKHBAR says that Saddam Husayn, the tyrant of Baghdad, is daily and hourly giving the world new proof of his thirst for blood and his resourceful criminal imagination.

AL-AKHBAR says that the latest invention of that dictator, who is currently writing a black page in human history, is the detention of of hundreds of thousands of foreign nationals, including a large number of women and children, to use them as a shield for his "valiant and heroic" soldiers. Saddam, the paper adds, is writing a page of lasting shame and disgrace in the history of the Iraqi military.

AL-AKHBAR says that Saddam imagines he can prolong his dark days by committing these crimes and by outdoing the worst tyrants in history—Genghis Khan, Hulegu, Nero, and Hitler—but he is wrong. Saddam's crimes will only make the world insist on removing this black spot that has tarnished everything that is pure and clean. The newspaper writes that Saddam Husayn drove in the first nail in the coffin of his regime and is driving in a new nail every day. We are awaiting the last nail, the paper concludes. [passage omitted]

UKTUBAR Chief Editor Salah Muntasir's column, "Just an Opinion," which appears daily in AL-AHRAM and today is entitled "Total Surrender." He urges putting Iraqi President Saddam Husayn on trial, asserting that he perpetrated a crime against all Arabs by surrendering to all Iranian demands. Salah Muntasir describes the message which Saddam Husayn sent to Iranian President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani as a "total surrender" to all of Iran's conditions and demands. He adds that it cannot be regarded as an Iraqi initiative for peace with Iran.

The writer notes that Saddam declared he would renounce his demands regarding the Shatt al-'Arab, withdraw his forces from Iranian territory, and release Iranian POW's before finally telling Rafsanjani: "With this all that you have wanted and emphasized has been realized."

Salah Muntasir asks: Is this not an unconditional surrender by Saddam Husayn? Muntasir then asserts that the Arab people are not against peace—indeed they are the first to look forward to it—but what is happening is a crime which must not be allowed to succeed.

Muntasir says that it was Saddam Husayn who provoked the sacred war against Iran, incited the Arabs against it, caused a deterioration of relations between it and the Arab countries, and brought about the martyrdom of Egyptians in the war which he termed "The Second al-Qadisiyah" only to come later and speak of an Iraqi peace initiative that is in fact a surrender to Iran.

In another article in AL-AHRAM, writer Musa Sabri asks: How did Saddam Husayn make his calculations and why? He answers by saying that when Saddam Husayn decided to invade Iran eight years ago [as received], his decision was based on reports attributed to the U.S. intelligence services and received via an Arab country. The reports indicated that swallowing up Iran would require no more than a blitzkrieg that would end in Iran's being overrun in seven days. However, after fighting for eight years and suffering tens of thousands of Iraqi martyrs and maimed and billions of dollars in damages, the outcome was a stalemate which he tried to portray to his people as an historic victory.

Sabri adds that these are the prerequisites of autocratic rule. Nevertheless the sad truth remains. Every Iraqi home lost a martyr and Saddam realized that the regime must necessarily be undermined in a country known for frequent military coups. Hence he planned a new development to preoccupy the masses and gain their support. He decided to seize Kuwait, particularly as Iraqi regimes both before and after the revolution have regarded Kuwait as a lost Iraqi governorate.

The writer explains that Saddam patiently planned the invasion. He improved his ties with the Gulf countries and then built good relations with Egypt leading to the establishment of the Arab Cooperation Council. This was the first step. The second step was to provoke a certain political climate to inflame pan-Arab sentiments by making violent statements in which he threatened to destroy Israel, and by attacking U.S. policy. He then had to strike.

Musa Sabri adds that Saddam Husayn expected Egypt to react passively to his invasion of Kuwait and confine itself to muted verbal protests. He never thought it would intervene militarily. The Jordanian and Yemeni positions became clear after the invasion and it is likely these two countries had prior knowledge of it. As for the Gulf countries, Saddam thought their positions would be mere futile shouting especially as he had become accustomed to using threats and blackmail against them. For these reasons, he invaded and annexed Kuwait.

Sabri affirms that Saddam Husayn's calculations failed and he found himself defying the world alone. The region found itself on the brink of a terrifying war that would leave only devastation in its wake. Saddam did not find a single voice to support him, barring a few insignificant demonstrations.

The writer explains that this is the tragedy of autocratic rule when no one dares to defy the ruler who deals with his opponents with bullets. He wonders what will happen now that Saddam has stuck to his guns and rejected all face-saving offers proffered by Husni Mubarak to enable him to save the near future from darkness and ruin. The writer concludes: "No one knows."

Saddam Reportedly Offered Mubarak Bribe

NC2008182990 Paris AFP in English 1532 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, Aug 20 (AFP)—Iraq was ready to offer Egypt a sizeable bribe in foreign currency to turn a blind eye to Iraq's invasion of Kuwait on August 2, the weekly economic paper AL-AHRAM AL-IQTISADI reported Monday.

Quoting a senior Egyptian official, the paper said Iraqi President Saddam Husayn had sent an envoy with a

verbal message to President Husni Mubarak several days before the invasion, offering him "a bribe."

The paper said the bribe was "substantial, one such as Egypt had never received in one go," adding that Mr Mubarak had "categorically" rejected the offer.

The report seemed to suggest that the Egyptian leader was forewarned about the invasion. There was no official reaction to it.

Earlier, the Egyptian press blasted Mr Husayn and his latest proposal to trade tens of thousands of foreigners for a U.S. troop withdrawal from the Gulf.

"The Iraqi dictator is writing the darkest pages of world history," a commentator in the semi-official AL-AKHBAR newspaper said.

Another influential newspaper, AL-JUMHURIYAH, charged that Mr Husayn had "violated all the laws and obligations" that he was expected to respect.

Egypt has sent several thousand troops to Saudi Arabia to join an Arab force deployed in the kingdom along with at least 20,000 U.S. troops to prevent a possible Iraqi attack.

Mubarak Appeals to Saddam, Arab Nation

NC2108123690 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1145 GMT 21 Aug 90

[President Muhammad Husni Mubarak appeal to Iraqi President Saddam Husayn and the Arab nation from Cairo on 21 August—read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, and compassionate. Out of our historical responsibility before our Arab and Muslim peoples and before the people of the entire world to protect peace and avert the signs of the ferocious war which will only result in destruction and ruin, I address this sincere appeal, for the sake of God and the homeland, to brother President Saddam Husayn.

Mr President Saddam Husayn: In the name of all sanctities on our Arab soil; in the name of our cultural heritage which gave the world the most magnificent and eternal values of justice and human dignity; in the name of Islam, the religion of peace, fraternity, and cooperation in all that is good, gracious, and pious; in the name of Arab nationalism, which calls on us to work for a constructive and prosperous future; in the name of pan-Arabism, which brought us together in religion, language, and land so that we can share a common life now and a common destiny; in the name of our unity, which is a solid shield against the ambitions of the enemy and the lust of those lying in wait for us to shatter the shield, divide the household, and kill the men; in the name of solidarity, cohesion, cooperation, and mercy, which represent the flags to our humanitarian Arab march; in the name of every pure value and every noble message which is the guide and torch to our march of progress toward a better world; in the name of every man, woman, and child on our Arab soil, who are looking forward to a new dawn which provides peace, warmth, and hope and builds the happy household; in the name of thousands of innocent martyrs who gave their blood throughout the history of a long struggle and sacrificed their lives to give us a free life on a free land; in the name of everything that is enlightening, good, and truthful.

I appeal to President Saddam Husayn to save mankind from a destructive war which will leave a scorched earth. Only God knows the horrible ending of this war if it starts and the extent of damage and danger if fire breaks out, which will take us back to darkness and loss.

I appeal to President Saddam Husayn to make a decision to withdraw the Iraqi forces from Kuwait and restore conditions to their previous state.

All Arabs are looking to you hoping that you will embark on this initiative which will be appreciated by the Arab world and the world at large—west, east, north, and south.

I address this appeal to you at these decisive and momentous hours and I am confident that you will respond favorably out of appreciation of the supreme Arab interest which is above all other considerations.

The Arab nation will not be impotent in resolving its problems, achieving its solidarity, and meeting its responsibilities by using the minds of its sons and leadership.

We implore God to guide us to the road of justice, right, and reason.

Mubarak Receives Kuwaiti Heir Apparent

NC2008173890 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1705 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Alexandria, 20 Aug (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak received His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah, Kuwaiti heir apparent and prime minister this evening. He is leading a Kuwaiti delegation comprising Dr. 'Abd-al-Rahman al-'Awadi, minister of state for cabinet affairs; Nasir 'Abdallah al-Ridan, minister of trade; 'Abd-al-Latif al-Bahr, deputy head of the office of his highness the heir apparent; and 'Abd-al-Razzaq al-Kandari, Kuwait's ambassador to Cairo. The meeting was attended by Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif and Dr. 'Atif 'Ubayd, minister of cabinet affairs and minister of state for administrative development.

Al-Baz, PLO's Al-Hasan Hold 'Frank' Talks

NC1908200690 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1933 GMT 19 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, 19 Aug (MENA)—Dr. Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and director of the president's office for political affairs, today met with Hani al-Hasan, political adviser to Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat. The two reviewed the developments in the Gulf crisis and its effects on the Palestinian issue.

Al-Hasan described his talks with Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Dr. Usamah al-Baz as frank and cordial.

The meeting was attended by Sa'id Kamal, the ambassador of Palestine in Egypt, and Zuhdi al-Qidrah, representative of the Fatah Movement in Cairo.

Al-Hasan Leaves for Saudi Arabia

NC2008165490 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1555 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, 20 Aug (MENA)—Hani al-Hasan, political adviser to Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat, left Cairo for Saudi Arabia today at the end of a one-day visit to Egypt.

Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Dr. Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and director of the president's office for political affairs, had met with the Palestinian official to discuss the developments in the Gulf crisis and their impact on the Palestinian issue.

Hani al-Hasan was seen off by Palestine Ambassador in Cairo Sa'id Kamal and Fatah representative in Cairo Zuhdi al-Qidrah.

Italian Foreign Minister Holds News Conference

NC1708204690 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1850 GMT 17 Aug 90

[Text] Alexandria, 17 Aug (MENA)—Gianni de Michelis, Italian foreign minister and head of the European troika delegation, has described the delegation's meeting with President Husni Mubarak as being "very important."

Speaking at a news conference at al-Nuzhah airport tonight, following a meeting between President Mubarak and the troika delegation, de Michelis said that the EC appreciates the resolutions passed by the recent emergency Arab summit in Cairo. De Michelis noted that on the same day these resolutions were passed, the European Council also passed a resolution condemning Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and calling for the legitimate Kuwaiti authorities to be reinstalled in that country, in accordance with the principles of international law, which, he added, means that both the Arab League and the EC share identical opinions on that issue.

The Italian foreign minister praised Egypt's stand on the Kuwaiti-Iraqi crisis, saying that Egypt's stand in the framework of the Arab League is very important.

De Michelis said that it is important for Europe to back Egypt and cooperate with it in order to consolidate that position and to begin a new phase in Euro-Arab relations.

De Michelis added that the aim of the EC is to contain aggression and uphold the principles of international law. He noted that Egypt has an important and vital role in this endeavor.

De Michelis said that the troika delegation, after its meeting with President Mubarak, will return to Europe with a spirit of optimism guided by reason. He voiced his belief that justice and the sovereignty of the law and of international law will prevail.

De Michelis said: We in the EC have reiterated our full condemnation of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and stressed the need to create a favorable atmosphere for negotiations in order to withdraw the Iraqi troops and restore the legitimate ruling regime to Kuwait.

He added that isolating Iraq politically, in addition to the imposition of the firm and comporehensive economic boycott, is the best solution to the problem.

He noted that the European troika delegation had notified officials in the countries included in its tour that the EC is fully committed to the UN resolutions on the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, particularly the UN Security Council Resolutions 661 and 662 on cooperation with the Arab League to restore legitimacy to Kuwait.

The Italian foreign minister said: The talks in Egypt showed that our views are identical on a possible action in the near future to find a solution for the problem. He continued: We all are aware that the alternative to the political solution is the military one, which we do not want. Therefore, action must be taken in the near future to tighten the political isolation and boycott around Iraq.

The Italian foreign minister emphasized the importance of cooperation with Arab states to resolve the problem. He said: We found that we and our Egyptian friends have identical views. We told officials in both Jordan and Egypt that we are fully prepared as EC members to provide economic assistance to the Arab states that might suffer as a result of the economic boycott against Iraq, and because of the economic repercussions of the Gulf crisis.

He noted that for this purpose the delegation included EC General Commissioner Abel Matutes. He added: We proposed the establishment of two apparatus' to provide that financial and economic assistance. The proposal is currently under consideration among a number of Arab and European states, he said.

He added: In Alexandria, we listened to a presentation of various elements in connection with the economic effects of the Gulf crisis on Egypt. He asserted that the countries of the European Common Market will take all of these elements into account during their upcoming meeting with other Western states to discuss proposals concerning the establishment of these apparatus'.

De Michelis further said: We reiterated to our Egyptian friends our willingness to cooperate in other ways with international institutions, including the IMF [International Monetary Fund] and the Paris Club, in order to reach quick and positive decisions concerning the economic situation in Egypt.

The Italian foreign minister added that he will report the outcome of his talks with President Mubarak and the

important elements which he had stressed to the next EC meeting which will be held in Paris next Tuesday. He said: We will certainly take into account all the views expressed during Alexandria meeting.

The Italian foreign minister said: We agreed that the Iraqi moves in the Gulf provide evidence of the underlying instability in the Gulf and Middle East regions. He asserted that the convocation of an international conference on security in the Middle East and Mediterranean regions is now necessary more than ever. He pointed out that such a conference will follow the example of the Helsinki conference on security and cooperation in Europe.

He noted that the EC and the Egyptian Government fully agree on this matter. Therefore, he concluded, we will remain in contact to take action in this direction.

[Paris AFP in English at 2014 GMT on 17 August, in its lead paragraph, reports that "Italian Foreign Minister Gianni de Michelis warned Friday that war could break out in the Gulf in U.N.-approved sanctions against Iraq were not rigourously respected."]

Japanese Foreign Minister Arrives in Cairo

NC2108180390 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama arrived in Cairo this evening on a one-day visit to Egypt, during which he will meet with President Husni Mubarak.

He will also hold talks tomorrow with Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, on recent developments in the Gulf region and efforts to contain the crisis and bring about an Iraqi troop withdrawal from Kuwait. The talks will also focus on bilateral relations and ways to bolster them in the various scopes.

Received by Mubarak

NC2208090090 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0808 GMT 22 Aug 90

[Text] Alexandria, 22 Aug (MENA)—President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama in Alexandria this morning. Nakayama delivered a message from Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu to President Mubarak and briefed him on Japan's views concerning the current Gulf crisis as well as the ways in which Japan can help resolve that crisis.

Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Hisashi Edwada, Japanese assistant deputy foreign minister [name and title as received], and Chusei Yamada, Japan's Ambassador to Egypt, attended the meeting.

Saudi Foreign Minister Concludes Visit

NC2108121690 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1205 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, 21 Aug (MENA)—Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal left Cairo before noon today following a short visit to Egypt.

He was seen off at the airport by Dr. Usamah al-Baz, first undersecretary of the Foreign Ministry and director of the president's office for political affairs, and Saudi ambassador in Cairo As'ad Abu-al-Nasr.

Soviet Envoy Concludes Visit, Departs for Sanaa

NC1908210590 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2037 GMT 19 Aug 90

[Text] Cairo, 19 Aug (MENA)—Ambassador Mikhail Sytenko, special envoy of the Soviet leadership to the Middle East, left Cairo this evening for Sanaa following a one-day visit to Egypt.

In a statement before his departure, the Soviet envoy stated that he had held talks with Egyptian officials to exchange views on the current situation in the Gulf area. He said that he met with Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Dr. Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, to discuss the situation in the crisis area, which could cause a military explosion that would pose a great danger to the entire Middle East region.

The Soviet envoy noted that the Egyptian and Soviet sides expressed their profound concern over the situation in the Gulf and called for more active Arab and international efforts to end the crisis.

Libya

Al-Qadhdhafi Says U.S. Violates UN Charter

LD2108201490 Tripoli Television Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Excerpt] At a press conference yesterdau evening, the brother leader of the revolution said that the U.S. has violated the UN charter by resorting to military methods and armed force against Iraq; a move which is not provided for in article 41 of the UN charter. The leader added that he expects the UN secretary general to present a report to the Security Council within 30 days on whether articles 39, 40 and 41 of the UN charter are useful in dealing with the Gulf crisis, or whether the council will later be forced to implement article 42, which the United States and its allies have implemented without a UN resolution. [passage omitted]

Al-Qadhdhafi Meets Morocco's Hassan

LD2108221790 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] The brother leader of the revolution and King Hassan II held a closed meeting tonight at the residence of the brother leader of the revolution in Rabat.

Sudan

Iraqi Fighter Planes Reportedly Arrive at Base

JN2108175190 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1715 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Citing informed Sudanese sources, the Egyptian newspaper AL-WAFD said today that the military government in Khartoum has agreed to place some of its military bases at Iraq's disposal. The newspaper added that a squadron of Iraqi fighter planes has already arrived at Wadi Sayyidna Air Base, 20 km north of Khartoum, but it did not say when the planes arrived there.

Al-Bashir Receives Kuwaiti Amir's Message

NC1808123890 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0550 GMT 18 Aug 90

[Text] Kuwait [dateline as received], 17 Aug (WAKH)—Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan al-Bashir, chairman of the Sudanese Revolution Command Council for National Salvation, has received a message from Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah dealing with the latest developments in the tyrannical Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

Kuwait Radio said tonight that Muhammad Nasir al-Hamdan, minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs, delivered the message during a meeting with Lt. Gen. al-Bashir today.

Meets With Al-Sabah Envoy

EA1908163990 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1020 GMT 19 Aug 90

[Text] Khartoum, 19th August (SUNA)—The chairman of the Revolution Command Council and the Council of Ministers, Lieutenant General 'Umar Hasan Ahmad al-Bashir, met here today Mr. Muhammad Nassar al-Jum'an, who was carrying to his excellency a message from Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah on the situation in the Gulf region. His Excellency Lt. Gen 'Umar reaffirmed Sudan's firm position, which calls for containing the problem within the Arab framework and halting military escalation and [words indistinct] foreign troops from the region.

Al-Bashir To Visit Arab Countries on Crisis

EA1908214890 Khartoum SUNA in French 1540 GMT 19 Aug 90

[Text] Khartoum, 19th August (SUNA)—Major General al-Zubayr Muhammad, National Salvation Revolution Command Council vice chairman, has announced that General 'Umar al-Bashir's visit to the Republic of Yemen which he started yesterday, Saturday will be followed by other visits to Arab countries in the framework of efforts exerted by Sudan to "contain" the current crisis in the Gulf at the Arab level and the role of foreign interference. Meanwhile, Maj. Gen. al-Zubayr, in the course of a meeting with the SUNA director general and chief editors of newspapers today, indicated that condemnations would be of no use and would complicate the problems further.

Kuwaiti Ambassador Meets Information Minister

EA2108202690 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1412 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Khartoum, 21 Aug (SUNA)—Today Mr. Muhammad Khawjali Salihin, minister of culture and information, met His Excellency 'Abdullah al-Surayyi, ambassador of the State of Kuwait in Khartoum. They discussed the latest developments in the Gulf region and bilateral relations.

Minister Goes to Jordan To Discuss Evacuees

EA2008155890 Khartoum SUNA in English 1023 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 20 August (SUNA)—The state minister for the Sudanese expatriates' affairs, al-Sa'id 'Uthman Mahjub, left today for Jordan to discuss the suitable means of evacuating some 500 Sudanese nationals who arrived at the Jordanian port of Aqabah from Kuwait on their way to Sudan and needed to be transported to Sudan immediately. [passage omitted]

Official Cites 'Crimes Against Public Money'

EA1908213189 Khartoum SUNA in English 1017 GMT 19 Aug 90

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 19 August (SUNA)—Member of the Revolution Command Council, chairman of the Economic Committee Colonel Salah al-Karrar yesterday called for working out measures for preserving the public money reforming to malpractices in this field during the past periods. [sentence as received]

"If the grants and loans extended to the country during the (?said) periods had been well exploited, the development situation would have been better than now," Karrar told the seminar on public money which started sessions here yesterday.

The session was also addressed by the cabinet affairs minister, head of the administrative reform council, Colonel al-Tayyib Ibrahim, pointing out that crimes

against public money during 1986-88 have reached 7,047 cases. [passage omitted]

SPLA Reports Ambush of Government Convoy

EA2008202190 (Clandestine) Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Army] forces of the Bright Star Campaign, Phase One, yesterday, 19 August 1990, captured enemy soldiers in a battle that lasted two days. One of them is Private Muhammad Adam Muhammad, AKM No. 5390, military No. 76623??0 The battle took place between Juba and Bungu, which is 309 miles away.

According to Private Muhammad Adam, the convoy that joined Abtal al-Jaba [Heroes of Juba] and Bas al-Hadid [the Will of Iron] is caled al-Nil [the Nile], mainly from radarbrigade. He said the commanders of the two convoys are: a colonel who is a southerner and he does not know his name; Colonel Abu Zayd Muhammad Ahmad, Lieutenant Colonel Ali Muhammad Abdullah, and Colonel Clement Wani, who were meant to lead the rescue force returned back to Juba with their wounded on 18 August 1990. Pvt. Muhammad Adam revealed that their forces suffered heavy casualties with many trucks destroyed in yesterday's ambush.

According to the captured enemy soldier, Pvt. Muhammad Adam the soldiers of these convoys were told that they were going only to Lanya [63 miles west of Juba]. This was a blatant lie by the junta. These unfortunate soldiers, deceived by juba that they were only going to Lanya, are here told the truth by Radio SPLA: Your destination is Yei and from there you are supposed to recapture Kaya and Kajo Kaji not only that you are [word indistinct] at Yei. This is a foolish dream by the junta. We want to tell the soldiers of the enemy convoy destined for Yei that you have very many ambushes on the way. The National Islamic Front [NIF] junta is only sending you to your death to get rid of you so as to replace the Sudanese Army with their own NIF army which they are now training.

We appeal to the officers, NCO's and men to disobey 'Umar al-Bashir's junta and instead to start a dialogue with the SPLA. We expect the regular Sudanese Army to defend itself from the NIF. Form your own high command and local committees in various garrisons and start talking to the SPLA on how to save the Sudan from the NIF and its junta of 'Umar al-Bashir. For this the SPLA will give you its full backing.

Bahrain

Facilities Reportedly Offered to UK Forces

NC1808061190 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 18 Aug 90

[Text] Alan Clark, British minister of state for defense procurement, has stated that Bahrain has agreed to provide facilities to the British Air Force units currently deployed in the Gulf.

Amir, U.S. Admiral Discuss Gulf Situation

NC2008114990 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0935 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Excerpts] Manama, 20 Aug (WAKH)—Amir of Bahrain His Highness Shaykh 'Isa Ibn-Salman Al Khalifah and His Highness Prime Minister Shaykh Khalifah Ibn-Salman Al Khalifah today received Indian Energy and Civil Aviation Minister Arif Muhammad Khan. [passage omitted]

His Highness the Amir of Bahrain and His Highness the Prime Minister also received Admiral Henry Moore, commander of the U.S. Naval Forces Central Command and commander of the U.S. Seventh Fleet in the Pacific [name, titles as received]. They reviewed current developments in the Gulf and the international situation in light of the crisis resulting from Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad Ibn-Mubarak Al Khalifah; Interior Minister Shaykh Muhammad Ibn-Khalifah Al Khalifah; Shaykh 'Ali Ibn-Khalifah Al Khalifah, assistant under secretary for immigration and passports at the Interior Ministry; and U.S. Ambassador to Bahrain Charles Hostler also attended the meeting.

Cabinet Reviews Developments in Gulf

NC1908141390 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1130 GMT 19 Aug 90

[Text] Manama, 19 Aug (WAKH)—Bahraini Prime Minister His Highness Shaykh Khalifah Bin-Salman Al Khalifah chaired the weekly cabinet session here today.

Yusuf Ahmad al-Shirawi, minister of development and industry and acting minister of state for cabinet affairs, has stated that his highness the prime minister opened the session by reviewing the developments in the Gulf in light of the continued Iraqi aggression against the fraternal State of Kuwait. His highness pointed out that the amir, government, and people of Kuwait occupy a prominent position in our hearts and in the hearts of all Arabs. He added that Bahrain has demonstrated its position by emphasizing the need for the unconditional withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwaiti territory and the restoration of legitimacy as represented by the amir of Kuwait and his legitimate government, and by demanding a response to the decisions of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] member states and the implementation of the Arab summit and UN resolutions which condemned the aggression, demanded the withdrawal of the Iraqi troops, and called for restoring legitimacy to the fraternal State of Kuwait.

Al-Shirawi added that the Bahraini foreign minister briefed the meeting on the diplomatic efforts exerted on the Gulf, Arab, and international levels to resolve the problem arising from the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait.

The cabinet was also briefed by the information minister on the outcome of the GCC information ministers meeting held in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, and heard a report from the defense minister on the results of the visit by the British minister of state for defense procurement.

The cabinet then approved the memorandum submitted by the Ministry of Development and Industry on the construction of an insecticide factory in Bahrain and instructed the concerned ministers to coordinate to implement this project.

Kuwait

Amir Addresses Nation 22 Aug via Riyadh TV

LD2208103290 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic 0900 GMT 22 Aug 90

[Text] His highness the beloved amir of Kuwait has made this address to the Kuwaiti people.

[Begin recording] Many thanks to be God for his grace. I ask him to grant me and you good patience for his divine decree.

Sons of Kuwait, O noble citizens, you who showed the world how to be steadfast, solid, and fraternal. The world knows too well the extent of the seriousness and gravity of the crime committed by the Iraqi regime by invading the Kuwaiti lands, which had been, and will, God willing, remain an authentic large tree in the shadow of which all those who seek security, stability, and a dignified life can rest.

Oh people of the homeland, if there is a lesson to be learned from this unjust invasion, it should be that we have shown to the whole world that the Kuwaiti people, despite their small number, have heroically stood up to the tyrannical invasion and defended their homeland, properties, honor, and dignity. These are truly the qualities of the believers who are confident in God's victory and might.

In addition, the support of all the world's leanings and social systems for Kuwait in its ordeal is categorical proof of the correctness of our policy, which has brought us the trust and support of the world's peoples and governments, because of its objective stands vis-a-vis all the events witnessed by the world. This is undoubtedly a bright point which will go on record in Kuwait's favor and aspirations in the future, God willing.

Sisters and brothers, I address these words to you while I live with you and among you and for your own sake, always and for ever. I think what you think and do what satisfies God, satisfies you, and satisfies all honorable

men of the world so as to restore things to their normal course and to restore Kuwait to what it was—proud with its gracious deeds, its sincere intention, and good deeds.

Oh people of the homeland [ya ahla addira]; I am confident, with the will of God and his help, that Kuwait will become greater and more dignified, safer and more secure. The dear sacrifices offered by the Kuwaiti people in this calamity will become strong and firm bases for a strong departure toward a better future, in which Kuwait will enlist all of those loyal and honorable people who have preserved Kuwait, who have protected it, and defended it. The Kuwaiti people, through their sacrifices, will become a strong and high fence protecting their country against all adversities and vicissitudes of fate.

Sisters and brothers, the hopes are great, and the future, God willing, will be more spacious than the present. We cannot do anything, but thank God for every situation, to trust that God is on on our side, that we remain above them [as heard] because we are advocates of right, and have a just belief that God will care for us with his attention and guidance. Do not be weakened or grieve while you are right. God almighty is right, and peace and God's compassion and blessings be upon you. [end recording]

Jerusalem TV Says Foreigners Rounded Up

TA2108185390 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew 1832 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] We have just received an update on the Iraqi crisis. Monitor Micky Gurdus reports that in recent hours Iraqi soldiers in Kuwait have begun to break into the homes of foreigners, to detain them, and to transfer them to central locations.

Resistance Leader Reports Iraqi Aircraft Losses

PM2108140690 Riyadh AL-RIYAD in Arabic 15 Aug 90 pp 1-18

[Muhammad al-Safyan report: "Kuwaiti leader Tells AL-RIYAD: Our Air Force Shot Down 30 Iraqi Aircraft in Early Days of Invasion"]

[Excerpt] Dammam—A Kuwaiti resistance leader has confirmed that the Kuwaiti Air Force shot down 30 Iraqi aircraft in the early days of the Iraqi invasion. He also revealed that some Iraqi soldiers have joined the Kuwaiti resistance with their tanks.

The Kuwaiti leader said in a statement to AL-RIYAD that the men of the Kuwaiti resistance continue to defend their homeland with every means at their disposal and have inflicted heavy losses on the Iraqi invaders in terms of men killed and wounded.

The Kuwaiti leader added that some Iraqi soldiers have started to join the Kuwaiti resistance with their tanks, chanting slogans against Saddam regime. They say: "Saddam and his agents told us at the outset that it was a maneuver near the Kuwaiti borders. But when we arrived there they ordered us to invade—which is unacceptable to Iraqi soldiers." He added that some Iraqi soldiers are now abandoning their military uniforms and weapons expressing their lack of support for the Iraqi invasion of Kuwaiti territory.

In his statement to AL-RIYAD the Kuwaiti leader said that in the early days of the Iraqi invasion the Kuwaiti Air Force bombed a number of Iraqi military installations and deployments, inflicting material and military losses. [passage omitted]

Iraqi Troops Commandeer Hospitals

LD2108145990 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1350 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Kuwait, 21 Aug (SPA)—News agencies and information media have reported from Kuwait that Iraqi soldiers who have taken over the control of hospitals in Kuwait are preventing citizens from getting medical treatment, restricting this to Iraqi soldiers.

Reports say that there is no shortage of medicine, but discrimination in dealing with people. Citizens in Kuwait have conveyed the need for the Red Cross to be informed of this so that Iraq will not be able to exploit the situation as a result of the blockade imposed on it.

'National Resistance' Destroys Iraqi Vehicles, Tank

LD2108172290 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1628 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Excerpt] Manamah/Cairo, 21 Aug (SPA)—The Kuwaiti national resistance command has said that its men have destroyed three Iraqi mechanized vehicles and a tank in the Khaytan region, which, like other regions of Kuwait, is witnessing a great upheaval against the Iraqi invasion forces.

The command said that it has been able to coordinate the efforts of those working with it, and has supplied them with arms and ammunition to intensify their heroic role in facing the Iraqi occupation. People arriving in Manama from Kuwait have said that Kuwaiti resistance against the Iraqi Army has increased in strength, and as a consequence, five Iraqi soldiers have surrendered to the resistance and changed into Kuwaiti clothing out of their fear of reprisal by the Iraqi military command. [passage omitted]

AL-SIYASAH To Be Published in Saudi Arabia

NC2108204290 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2018 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Riyadh, 21 Aug (MENA)—The QATARI NEWS AGENCY has reported that the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-SIYASAH will start publication in Saudi Arabia.

The agency adds that the paper's chief editor Ahmad al-Jarallah is contacting several Saudi publishing houses and newspapers to print the paper which stopped publication in Kuwait as a result of the Iraqi invasion.

Nation Rejects Iraqi Initiative

LD2008180790 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1714 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] London 20 Aug 1990 SPA—Kuwait announced its rejection today of the Iraqi regime's initiative issued yesterday concerning the foreign nationals being detained in Kuwait and Iraq.

A spokesman of the Kuwaiti Council of Ministers headed by his excellency the heir apparent, Shaykh Sa'ad al-Abdallah al-Sabah, told KUNA the council rejects the Iraqi statement on the whole and in its details.

He added that the Kuwaiti Government sees the Iraqi statement as a link in the chain of deception and procrastination the Iraqi leadership has a propensity for.

He emphasised there is no solution to the question of Iraq's occupation of the State of Kuwait except through very firm and determined action to implement the resolutions of the UN Security Council in this regard.

Following is the text of the Kuwaiti Government's statement as broadcast by KUNA.

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful,

Pursuant to what was broadcast from Baghdad regarding a new initiative from Saddam Husayn, a responsible source at the Kuwaiti Council of Ministers has stated the following:

First, the Iraqi regime has begun feeling the international isolation. It occurred to Husayn to use innocent foreigners working in Kuwait and Iraq as a means of pressure on the international community to have the international siege lifted on him to relieve himself from the choking isolation he put himself in when this tyrant regime dared to commit this foolish act of occupying a sovereign sisterly state, of making its infrastructure collapse, and of committing aggression against its legitimacy. The whole world has unanimously rejected this savage blackmailing manner no civilized regime dares adopt.

Second, Saddam Husayn's statement indicated that the issue of the occupation of Kuwait by Iraq is an Arab one, and forgot or pretended to forget that when the Iraqi foreign minister distributed a memorandum of Iraqi accusations against Kuwait within the framework of the Arab league, Kuwait proposed—out of its preference for an Arab solution—to form an Arab committee to deal with the pending issues between the two Arab states, but the Iraqi Government rejected that proposal by saying this issue is a bilateral matter between Iraq and Kuwait.

In response to the good offices of the custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd Bin-al-'Aziz and President Husni Mubarak, a meeting took place in Jeddah between Kuwait and Iraq. However, this attempt failed because of reasons related to the Iraqi delegation, who insisted the pending issues between the countries should not be discussed, because the delegation was not empowered to do so. The delegation stressed that it saw this meeting as a protocol meeting.

A few hours following the return of the Kuwait delegation from Jeddah, the Iraqi Army marched, using huge numbers of troops, to invade Kuwaiti land, using all sorts of weapons. The Iraqi soldiers carried out killing, robbery, and armed looting. The Army destroyed public and private buildings. Iraq rejected all resolutions adopted by the Arab League. These resolutions condemned the Iraqi invasion and called for an immediate and unconditional withdrawal of Iraqi troops from the State of Kuwait to allow the legitimate authority to resume its functions.

Today we hear Saddam Husayn claim the issue of occupying Kuwait and attacking its sovereignty is an Arab matter that should be solved by the Arabs. How can this issue be solved through an Arab framework if Iraq insists on occupying Kuwait? How can this issue be dealt with through an Arab scope if Saddam Husayn rejects clear and frank Arab resolutions regarding this matter?

The Iraqi leadership is aimlessly lost. It had embarked on a hostile act, the dimensions of which it did not study. If it wanted to actually tackle the subject at an Arab level and if it had a little interest in the higher Arab interest, then Saddam Husayn has no choice or a way out other than to immediately withdraw his invading forces from the State of Kuwait unconditionally and to leave the affairs of the country to Kuwait's legitimate authorities embodied by his highness the amir of the State of Kuwait, Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah and his government, headed by his highness the heir apparent and prime minister, Shaykh Sa'ad al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah, around which the Kuwaiti people have never ceased to rally and be loyal to. They reject all forms of outside interference aimed at tampering with the domestic affairs of their homeland.

Accordingly to the Kuwait Council of Ministers, while rejecting part and parcel of what had been said in the Iraqi statement, views that statement as one ring in the chain of deceit and procrastination which is characteristic of the Iraqi leadership. There is no solution to the issue of Iraqi occupation of the State of Kuwait except through the firm and resolute implementation of the Security Council resolution in this connection.

We pray to God to save the Arab and Islamic from the evils of the criminal regime which had committed crimes against the Iraqi and Kuwaiti peoples and indeed against the Arab nation; crimes which are countless and beyond one's imagination. May God accept this prayer.

Foreign Minister Discusses Intervention

JN1808204390 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1724 GMT 18 Aug 90

[Interview with Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad by Antoine Abu-Samra in Paris; date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Abu-Samra] Your Excellency Shaykh Sabah, in your statement at the beginning of the press conference,

you said that you would liberate Kuwait, and that the Kuwaiti people were standing fast, and they would rise. How? Where is the Army, and what are the steps to be taken to reinforce resistance inside Kuwait?

[Al-Ahmad] I have actually said this, and I am saying seriously that the Kuwaiti people are standing fast, the resistance has begun, and the Kuwaiti Army is present with us outside Kuwait, between the Saudi and Kuwaiti borders. Therefore, I say that we will liberate Kuwait.

[Abu-Samra] Does the Arab community in Kuwait sympathize with you completely?

[Al-Ahmad] Yes, I say that it sympathizes with us. At the same time, some sides cast doubts on certain Arab communities. I said at the press conference that the Palestinian community is completely cooperating with us; even in resistance they cooperate with us.

[Abu-Samra] Your excellency, questions were raised owing to Yasir 'Arafat's position toward you, in particular his support for Iraq. This is why questions were raised to the effect that you are not pleased with the Palestinian community in Kuwait.

[Al-Ahmad] First of all, I have not said this. I would like to reiterate that we should distinguish between leaders and peoples. In light of this, the Palestinian people have a special place in our hearts. However, regrettably the leaders do not represent these people.

[Abu-Samra] When the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait began, did you ever expect, for one moment, that this invasion would take place?

[Al-Ahmad] Man can expect anything except an Iraqi attack on Kuwait, because Kuwait stood with Iraq for a full eight years, both financially and politically. Therefore, we never thought that Iraq would attack, occupy, or affect Kuwait.

[Abu-Samra] In your opinion, had any of the Kuwaiti officials, including the ruling family members, fallen into the hands of the Iraqi forces, what would their fate have been?

[Al-Ahmad] In fact, this was the objective. This was the objective of the advance of five Iraqi divisions on Kuwait. The objective was to kidnap his highness the amir and his highness the heir apparent so as not to have legitimacy in Kuwait. However, praise be to God, they left Kuwait, and as you know, after the occupation, and no one cooperated with the Iraqis. They did not find anyone to cooperate with them, either from the Arab community or from among the Kuwaitis.

[Abu-Samra] It is said that the true crisis between you and Iraq began at the Baghdad summit. It is also said that during one of the secret sessions, His Highness Shaykh Jabir refused to cancel the Iraqi debts. Is this true?

[Al-Ahmad] First of all I am sorry to say that all this talk is wrong, and these things did not take place. At the press conference, when some of the brothers asked me, I said that someone came to us to ask Kuwait to forget the debts. His highness the amir asked the envoy, after the Baghdad summit, if anyone had inquired about the debts? I would like to be very frank—he said no, then the amir said: Then leave the debts aside to help pay others. When they ask you about interest, you will be able to say that you have other debts and consequently the interest will be reduced. At any rate, I will never ask you about debts, and this is in your interest. This is exactly what happened. However, this did not take place at the Baghdad summit, but with a special envoy to his highness the amir.

[Abu-Samra] You said at your news conference that during your current tour of the world there were some states that would help you. You hinted that it would be militarily, and you said that this would happen at the right time. Can you tell us about these states that are ready to help you militarily, and what do you mean by the right time?

[Al-Ahmad] By the right time I mean the assembly of forces now in fraternal Saudi Arabia. I believe, or in fact I am sure that the strategy is to defend Saudi Arabia, because Saddam Husayn believes that expansion is relevant. Thus, the presence of these forces, strategically, is to defend Saudi Arabia. However, their objective is to liberate Kuwait, whether they are Arab forces—as you know there are Arab forces from Syria, Morocco, Egypt, and other states—and therefore their objective is to liberate Kuwait, because Saudi Arabia's primary objective is to liberate Kuwait.

[Abu-Samra] Do you believe that all the forces that have been dispatched to the region will help liberate Kuwait, or are they taking a defensive position out of concern for an Iraqi invasion of Saudi territory?

[Al-Ahmad] In fact, the presence of these forces there is to defend Saudi Arabia. However, at the same time, Saudi Arabia's primary objective is to liberate Kuwait in addition to defending itself.

[Abu-Samra] Of course, when you visited Western states, particularly Paris today, did you request anything specific in the field of armament to help the Kuwaiti resistance, for example?

[Al-Ahmad] In fact, most of our weapons are French-made, and this does not prevent Kuwait from requesting spare parts or ammunition for these weapons from France. This has actually been requested from the French.

[Abu-Samra] In your opinion, what is the true objective behind President Saddam Husayn's initiative regarding peace with Iran? Is the objective only to withdraw some of the units stationed on the Iranian front in order to position them on the Kuwait-Saudi front, or is there any objective to neutralize some parties in the region that sympathize with Iran, and which used to declare their hostility to Iraq overtly and covertly during its war with Iran?

[Al-Ahmad] In fact what the Iraqi president did with Iran gave back to Iran what it wanted from Iraq. The

Iraqi president's position will be critical in regard to the Iraqi forces which fought for eight years and from which tens of thousands were killed and other tens of thousands wounded, when they find that in one hour, the Iraqi president relinquished everything. However, regarding the objective to neutralize, I believe that he failed to neutralize Iran on this issue. Iran has had its word....

[Abu-Samra, interrupting] I said to neutralize some of those who sympathize with Iran in the Arab region, or to be more accurate to attract this group.

[Al-Ahmad] Which groups do you mean?

[Abu-Samra] Some of the groups that used to support Iran among the Arabs during the war.

[Al-Ahmad] We do not want to talk about groups, we want to talk about states. In fact, we all now sympathize—the killing, expulsions, and the taking of prisoners during the eight years of war—this has ended very fast, thank God, which we cannot actually understand. You can interpret this by saying that he wanted to withdraw his forces to the Saudi-Kuwaiti front. However, reaction to this would be bad. As an Arab, I feel bitterly and sorry for the thousands of youths who were killed or taken prisoners on both Islamic sides because of this, which ended in just a few hours.

[Abu-Samra] Thank you.

[Al-Ahmad] Thank you.

Exiled Foreign Minister Al-Sabah Visits France

For French reportage on the visit to France by exiled Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, including reports on his talks with French Prime Minister Rocard and Foreign Minister Dumas, please see the France section of the 20 August West Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Oman

Japanese Foreign Minister Arrives 19 Aug

NC2008065590 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0525 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Salalah, 19 Aug (MENA)—Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama arrived in Muscat tonight on an official two-day visit to Oman. On arrival, he said he is carrying a message to Sultan Qabus Bin-Sa'id from Japanese Foreign Minister Toshiki Kaifu.

Yusuf Bin-al-'Alawi Bin-'Abdallah, Omani minister of state for foreign affairs, is due to hold official talks with the Japanese foreign minister on 20 August.

Nakayama's visit to Oman is part of a tour of several Arab and Islamic countries which will include Jordan, Egypt, and Turkey.

Yemeni Foreign Minister Arrives in Muscat

NC2008095290 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0750 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Salalah, 20 Aug (WAKH)—Yemeni Foreign Minister Dr. 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Dali arrived in Muscat this morning on a one-day visit to the Sultanate of Oman. Yusuf Bin-al-'Alawi Bin-'Abdallah, Omani state minister for foreign affairs, and the Yemeni ambassador to Oman welcomed al-Dali upon his arrival.

Sultan Receives Japanese, Yemeni Ministers

NC2008131690 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1215 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Salalah, 20 Aug (MENA)—His Majesty Sultan Qabus Bin- Sa'id of Oman has received a written message from Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu. Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama delivered the message to his majesty the sultan during a meeting here today.

His Majesty Sultan Qabus Bin-Sa'id has also received a message from Yemeni President Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih. The message was delivered by 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Dali, Yemeni minister of state for foreign affairs.

Japan Supports Multinational Containment of Iraq

Nakayama Meets With Foreign Minister

OW2008135190 Tokyo KYODO in English 1311 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Excerpts] Salalah, Oman, Aug. 20 KYODO—Oman on Monday criticized Iraq for its invasion of Kuwait and agreed with Japan to support the dispatch of a multinational force to contain Baghdad's military and economic strength, Japanese officials said.

In a meeting with visiting Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, Oman's State Minister for Foreign Affairs Yusuf Bin-al-'Alawi 'Abdallah was quoted by the officials as stressing the need to contain Iraq.

The Oman minister said Iraq's ambitions had been made clear with its invasion of Kuwait as the first step, adding the next target could be Saudi Arabia if Iraq's ambitions are allowed to grow.

Al-'Alawi 'Abdallah, outlining Oman's backing of international economic sanctions against Iraq, also told Nakayama Iraq would have to be surrounded by a net of opposition to its ambitions if peace and stability were to prevail in the Gulf. [passage omitted]

In the 75-minute talks, the two ministers demanded Iraqi troops immediately pull out of Kuwait and the Kuwaiti Government under Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, who escaped the Iraqi invasion to Saudi Arabia, be restored.

It is the first time Oman has been reported as taking a clear stand against Iraqi aggression or announcing its support for the sending of a combined international force to the Gulf region.

Al-'Alawi 'Abdallah also said the Oman Government considers the main cause of the current crisis in the Gulf is the collapse of the "balance of power" in the region, especially since the end of the Iran-Iraq war, officials said.

The Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) member countries had just begun to be aware of the threat from Iraq, and not from Iran, he was quoted as saying.

In a reference to Baghdad's latest concession to Tehran by withdrawing its claim over the Shatt al-Arab waterway and on the exchange of prisoners-of-war, al-'Alawi 'Abdallah said the move only reflects Iraq's attempt to neutralize Iran. He said it was not a symptom of Iran-Iraq stability.

Referring to Jordan, the minister said King Husayn seems to be placed in an extremely difficult position economically and domestically and has failed to find a good compromise.

On Japan's possible cooperation in the Gulf, al-'Alawi 'Abdallah told Nakayama that he "understands well the duties" under Japan's Constitution which does not allow the dispatch of military forces abroad.

He urged, instead, that Japan should extend economic assistance to Oman and other nations affected by the current Middle East disturbance, Japanese officials said.

Nakayama, denouncing the Iraqi advance into Kuwait as a denial of international law and order, said Japan will make "utmost efforts" to contribute within the framework of its Constitution. [passage omitted]

Noting Oman's position as the chaircountry of the GCC, Nakayama pledged to move in concert with Oman in the Gulf crisis, Japanese officials said.

The two ministers agreed Oman should dispatch a senior Foreign Ministry official in charge of Asian affairs to Tokyo as early as September to discuss the details of Japan's possible assistance to the Gulf nation.

Al-'Alawi 'Abdallah was quoted as saying Oman will welcome Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu's possible visit to the country in October. [passage omitted]

Sultan Urges Japan To Give Nonmilitary Support

OW2008201490 Tokyo KYODO in English 1535 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Salalah, Oman, Aug. 20 KYODO—Oman's Sultan Qabus Bin-Sa'id urged Japan on Monday to provide nonmilitary support to efforts aimed at ending the crisis in the Middle East, Japanese officials said.

In a meeting with visiting Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama at the palace here, the sultan said the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait violated international law and cannot be allowed. Joint international action, including economic sanctions and a sea blockade, are needed against Baghdad, Japanese officials quoted the sultan as saying.

The sultan, saying he was very much encouraged by Nakayama's visit, said he is well aware of Japan's constitutional limits on using its military abroad, the officials said.

The sultan said Japan's nonmilitary contribution is extremely significant and will help allow the coordinated front of the Gulf nations to continue.

He said Japan's contribution will help consolidate the nations which are adversely affected by the sanctions being imposed on Iraq.

Nakayama, who paid a courtesy call on the sultan in this southern Oman city, said in the 40-minute meeting that Japan will extend economic assistance to those nations in the Gulf which are affected by Iraq's aggression, Japanese officials said.

Nakayama is on a five-nation Middle East tour on behalf of Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu, who postponed his scheduled trip and decided to stay in Tokyo to handle Japan's response to the Gulf crisis.

The foreign minister asked the sultan for his understanding of Kaifu's decision and conveyed Kaifu's desire to come to Oman in early October.

The sultan was quoted as telling the Japanese minister he is awaiting Kaifu's visit.

Earlier in the day, Nakayama met with Oman State Minister for Foreign Affairs Yusuf Bin-'Alawi Bin-'Abdallah and agreed to support international efforts to contain Iraq's economic and military strength.

Nakayama Departs

NC2008143190 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama left Muscat today, following a two-day official visit to the Sultanate of Oman.

Official talks between the Sultanate and Japan were held this morning in the Salalah Holiday Inn Hotel under the joint chairmanship of Yusuf Bin-'Alawi Bin-'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs, and Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama.

Speaking after the talks, His Excellency Yusuf Bin-'Alawi Bin-'Abdallah stated that the discussions focused on the nature of bilateral relations between the Sultanate of Oman and Japan. In a statement to the Omani news agency, Bin-'Alawi said the talks also focused on current events in the Gulf region and the two countries' views on them.

He added that the Sultanate sensed Japan's understanding of the situation and expressed satisfaction at

the Japanese stands on the Gulf issue. He also noted that Japan is fully prepared to provide every possible support to the Sultanate and to contribute to resolving the Gulf issues in order to maintain the cordial relations between Japan and the countries of the region.

Yemeni Minister Departs

NC2008180990 Manama WAKH in English 1630 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Muscat, Aug 20 (WAKH)—Yemeni Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr. 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Dali left here today after a visit to Oman.

The Yemeni minister delivered a message to Sultan Qabus Bin-Sa'id of Oman from President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih of Yemen.

Qatar

Interior Minister Receives Tunisian Message

NC1808172090 Manama WAKH in English 1517 GMT 18 Aug 90

[Text] Doha, Aug 18 (WAKH)—Qatari Interior Minister Shaykh 'Abdallah Bin-Khalifah Al Thani has received a written message from his Tunisian counterpart Abdelhamid Escheikh dealing with bilateral relations and the means of improving them in the field of interior affairs.

The message was conveyed by the Tunisian ambassador to Qatar, Slim Ben Taoufik Fourati, during a meeting with the Qatari minister here this morning.

Saudi Arabia

Council of Ministers Issues Statement on Gulf

LD2008201190 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Excerpt] King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, the custodian of the two holy mosques, chaired the session held by the Council of Ministers this afternoon on Monday, 20 August, at the al-Salam palace in Jeddah.

Following the meeting Minister of Information 'Ali al-Sha'ir made a statement to SPA, in which he said:

At the outset of today's session the exalted king briefed the council on all things concerning current conditions at the Arab level, in light of the contacts and discussions that his majesty, may God protect him, had with his brother leaders of Arab states as part of the continuous consultations on the latest military, political, and security developments.

He said, addressing the council [announcer-read]: This is to brief you while you are following the progress of affairs and keeping pace with news and events hour by hour.

In the domestic field, he said, may God protect him: All the reports I have been getting from ministers involved in the general services sector for citizens confirm that banking, commercial, and economic conditions are under constant attention and careful watch by the state. There is nothing that gives rise to anxiety on the part of the citizens or residents about the stability of the market with regard to the abundance of foodstuffs or production materials and the stability of affairs in various fields. We would like to reassure everyone that the state has looked at all possibilities in its considerations and calculations.

King Fahd added: The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, while confronting the calamity which has fallen upon the Arab nation as a result of the aggression on the fraternal State of Kuwait and its aftermath, would like—while it has taken precautions against every eventuality—to renew its ever present desire for a return of affairs to their proper place regarding the fraternal State of Kuwait—without spilling blood or igniting the flame of war in the area. This will not be achieved except through the implementation of Arab, international and Gulf resolutions, which call for demanding that Iraq withdraw all its forces from Kuwaiti territory, and return lawful authority under the leadership of His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad Al-Sabah and his government to governing the country, and the subsequent withdrawal of all the forces Iraq has massed along the borders of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. Only then, when the causes that led to the presence of Arab, Islamic, and international forces in the Kingdom and in the Gulf area abate, will conditions return to normal—after the containment of all affairs.

The information minister continued: After that, by noble guidance, His Royal Highness Prince Sultan Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation and inspector general, briefed the council on the current military situation, the size of the Arab, Islamic, and international forces supporting the Saudi Armed Forces in the defense of the territories of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and that of all the Gulf Cooperation Council member-countries.

His royal highness praised the high moral and excellent military competence of the Saudi soldier in all spheres. He also praised the spirit of cooperation between the military commands, and joint coordination between them and the Saudi command, supervising organizational and training operations in group and deployment positions.

Minister al-Sha'ir said the Council discussed a number of local issues and issued a number of decrees.

First, the Council [of Ministers] issued the following statements:

Statement issued by the Council of Ministers: In view of the requirements of the present situation, and to consolidate the Armed Forces with human resources among those Saudi citizens who expressed their willingness to volunteer to defend the dear homeland and protect its Islamic sanctities from any aggression, the custodian of the two holy mosques and the Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al

Sa'ud, issued his noble directives to open centers of mobilization and training all over the Kingdom. He expressed his profound appreciation for the patriotic response and the high enterprising spirit.

The military authorities have been informed so that they can take the necessary steps to equip these centers and enroll those who desire to join in serving in the ranks of the Armed Forces in the various military sectors, in conformity with the military rules in force. We pray to God Almighty to protect this pure homeland from any aggression; he is the guarantor of success.

Second, the council agreed to extend phase 4 of the agreement on the training and practical social development research center project in Dar'iyyah for two years, from 1 January 1990 until the end of December 1991, and to authorize the minister of labor and social affairs to sign the attached document on behalf of the government. [passage omitted]

Riyadh Emirate to Issue ID Cards for Kuwaitis

LD2108124690 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] The Emirate of the Riyadh region has started making arrangements to issue identity cards to the Kuwaiti brothers residing in the Riyadh region. This was announced by the Emirate of the Riyadh region as follows:

The Emirate of the Riyadh region announces to the Kuwaiti brothers residing here that they must report to the Emirate in accordance with what the Interior Ministry released so that identity cards may be issued for them. Then they will be given the appropriate services and not exposed to questioning by the competent authorities. Out of the Emirate's concern for the comfort of these brothers residing in the Riyadh region and in order not to disturb them, the following measures have been taken:

First, for the Kuwaiti brothers who are in hotels and schools in Riyadh or outside, the competent committees will go to these places to collect the required information. All these places will be informed of the state of the committee's visit by the committee coordinator.

Second, the Kuwaiti brothers who are staying with relatives or others or in houses which were previously prepared for them will be informed about the measures concerning them in a further announcement.

Third, those who reside in areas where there is no passport department are requested to contact the emirate of their region of residence which in turn will make the necessary arrangements to explain the required information and fix the date and venue for them.

God is the guarantor of success.

Authorities Refuse To Load Iraqi Tanker

NC1708125490 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 17 Aug 90

[Text] Saudi authorities have refused to load the Iraqi tanker al-Faw with oil. The tanker arrived in the Red Sea port of Mu'ajjiz yesterday. Navigation sources today said the tanker is waiting outside the port along with three other ships which were denied entry. These include the Iraqi tanker al-Qadisiyah, which Saudi Arabia had refused to load with oil last Monday as part of the economic sanctions imposed by the United Nations against Iraq.

Work has reportedly stopped completely in the Saudi port of Mu'ajjiz through which 2.7 million oil barrels had been exported daily. Iraqi oil pipelines end at this terminal.

In another development, the Iraqi ships al-'Abid and al-Bay'ah left Dubayy port last night, having been denied entry into the Rashid port to load oil.

U.S. Secretary Cheney's Delegation Departs

LD2108161590 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1255 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 21 Aug (SPA)—His Excellency U.S. Defense Secretary Richard Cheney and the delegation accompanying him left Jeddah this afternoon. He was seen off at King 'Abd al-'Aziz international airport by His Royal Highness Prince Sultan Bin 'Abd al-'Aziz, second deputy chairman of the council of ministers, defense minister, and inspector general. [passage omitted]

PLO Envoy Issues Statement on Gulf Crisis

LD2008230990 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic 2150 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] The ambassador of the State of Palestine to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and member of the Fatah Central Committee Subhi 'Ali Abu-Karsh—'Abu al-Mundhir—refuted what the pens of the hostile propaganda had been spreading about repatriating Palestinians, refusing to renew their residence permits, or preventing them from returning to the Kingdom.

This was stated in a press statement he made in Riyadh. The statement said: The Embassy of Palestine in the Saudi Arabian Kingdom would like to reassure all the brothers of the sons of our people that they are not the target of any harrassment or provocation. They will receive as they have in the past the care of the government of the custodian of the two holy mosques King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud and the loyal sons of the Saudi people who have always been the first to extend their hand and care for and support the steadfastness of our people in the Kingdom and in the occupied territories.

We refute what the pens of the hostile propaganda had been circulating about repatriating Palestinians and not

renewing their residence permits or preventing them from returning to their work.

The Kingdom has always been committed and still is committed to taking care of the sons of our people and in offering them all possible facilities.

Fahd Supports Mubarak Call to Iraq

LD2108225790 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic 2222 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] The custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz al Sa'ud, expressed his support for the call addressed today by His Excellency President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, President of the Egyptian Arab Republic, in which he called on Iraqi President Saddam Husayn to decide to withdraw Iraqi troops from Kuwait so that the situation returns to what it was before 2 August.

King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz expressed his consideration and that of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the rationale and objectivity which characterized President Mubarak's call, stressing the leading role of Egypt in closing ranks and adopting every constructive action in the interest of the Arab nation and its peoples, in addition to the weight enjoyed by Egypt in the international level, thanks to the balanced line adopted by President Mubarak. This was mentioned tonight when the custodian of the two holy mosques received his brothers the citizens in al-Salam Palace in the city of Jeddah, in his first comment on this call. He—may God protect him—affirmed that President Mubarak, in his call, made what he meant perfectly plain. The beloved king said that that was the best solution.

Oil Minister Meets With Indian Counterpart

LD1808152990 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 18 Aug 90

[Text] At his office in Jeddah at noon today His Excellency Hisham Muhyl al-Din Nazir, minister of petroleum and mineral resources and acting minister of planning, received Arif Mohammad Khan, minister of energy and civil aviation. Issues of common interst were discussed during the meeting. The Indian ambassador to the Kingdom attended the meeting.

Italy's De Michelis Meets Press 17 Aug

LD1708194290 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 17 Aug 90

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] His Excellency Italian Foreign Minister Gianni de Michelis has declared the European Community's total support for UN Resolutions 661 and 662 which call for Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwaiti soil. At a press conference held in Jeddah last night he said: We are working for the implementation of these resolutions and for finding appropriate circumstances for compelling Iraq to withdraw.

His excellency reaffirmed also the community's support for the economic sanctions imposed on Iraq and noted that there is agreement between the European stance and the Saudi stance vis-a-vis the implementation of the two resolutions.

He added that during talks with the Saudi delegation chaired by His Royal Highness Prince Sultan Bin 'Abd-al-'Aziz, second deputy prime minister, minister of defense and aviation and inspector general, I was aware of the emphasis by the Saudi delegation on the role of the United States and the European Community in the implementation of the resolution.

The Italian minister stressed the importance of cooperation between the Community and the GCC states in economic spheres, saying: We discussed this issue with his excellency the GCC secretary general at a previous meeting and decided to speed up the conclusion of negotiations before the next official meeting between the Community and the GCC states in September in order to declare the agreement between the two sides." He noted the GCC's attitude toward the need for full implementation of the ban on Iraq and opposition toward Iraq's transfer of embassies from Kuwait to Baghdad.

The Italian minister expressed his concern at the treatment of U.S. and European citizens at the hands of the Iraqi forces.

The Italian minister ended his press conference by saying that he will meet with the Kuwaiti foreign minister and a delegation from the Kuwaiti Government to explain to them the EC recognition of the legitimate Kuwaiti Government.

King Fahd Cables Ex-Fatah, PLO Official

LD1708064290 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 17 Aug 90

[Text] King Fahd Bin 'Abd-al-'Aziz, custodian of the two holy mosques, sent the following reply cable:

Sa'id Khalil al-Muzayin, Abu Hisham, former representative of Fatah and PLO in the Kingdom and official responsible of the Jerusalem committee:

We received your cable sent on behalf of a number of the fraternal Palestinian people's sons residing in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia who expressed their appreciation of the care they receive from their brothers in this country and who, at the same time expressed their total rejection of the Iraqi regime's unlawful aggression on the sister state of Kuwait which was and still is (?a component) in the struggle of the Palestinian people and also their readiness to check any lawful attempt aimed at the security of the Kingdom by the oppressive Iraqi regime.

We thank you and thank the sons of the people of Palestine residing in the Kingdom for the sentiments, earnest concern, and solidarity with their brothers. We trust that they will never accept any aggression on brothers of theirs who were and still are a genuine

support for them in weal and woe, [words indistinct], and wish for them what they wish for themselves.

We also trust that the fraternal people of Palestine are aware that the aggression of the Iraqi regime and its offense against the Arab and Islamic values, principles, and ethics constitutes a grave offense on the struggle of the Palestinian people and their aspiration to liberate their land.

We beseech God to confront the conspiracy of the aggressor and to realize glorious victory to the Palestinian people.

Custodian of the two holy mosques, Fahd Bin 'Abd-al-'Aziz al Sa'ud, king of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Malian Minister Delivers Message, Departs

LD2208080990 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0713 GMT 22 Aug 90

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 22 Aug (SPA)—The Malian foreign minister, Ngolo Traore, left Jeddah this morning at the end of a visit to the kingdom during which he handed over to the custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd Bin 'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, a message from his excellency the president of the republic of Mali Moussa Traore. [passage omitted]

Japanese Foreign Minister Arrives in Jeddah

LD1808152190 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1430 GMT 18 Aug 90

[Excerpt] His excellency the Japanese foreign minister, Mr. Taro Nakayama, and the delegation accompanying him arrived in Jeddah this afternoon on a visit to the Kingdom. [passage omitted: the Saudi Foreign minister and other officials welcomed him on arrival]

Meets With Foreign Minister

LD1808190590 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1740 GMT 18 Aug 90

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 18 Aug (SPA)—Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal has conferred at the conference palace in Jeddah today with the Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama.

During the meeting, they reviewed developments in the Arab Gulf and bilateral relations.

The Saudi and Japanese parties stressed the strong relations existing between the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Japan and their desire to secure security and stability in the region in the interest of international peace and security. The two ministers indicated that their views were identical on all issues tabled for discussion. [passage omitted]

Delivers Message to Fahd

LD1908114690 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 19 Aug 90

[Text] The custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al'Aziz Al Sa'ud - may God preserve him—has received a message from Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu.

The message was delivered by Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama when the king—may God grant him support—received him and members of his delegation.

The audience was attended by crown prince and deputy prime minister and chief of the national guard, Prince 'Abdallah Bin-'Abd al-'Aziz; the Foreign Ministry's undersecretary for foreign affairs, 'Abd-al-Rahman Mansuri; and the Japanese ambassador to the kingdom.

Fahd Receives Message of Support from Sudan

LD1808163390 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic 1355 GMT 18 Aug 90

[Excerpt] The custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud; and His Royal Highness Amir 'Abdallah Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, crown prince, deputy prime minister and commander of the national guard; received a message from His Excellency Mubarak Al-Mahdi, former Sudanese minister of the interior and representative of the Ummah Party, in which he expressed—in his name and in the name of His Excellency Al-Sadiq Al-Mahdi and the Ummah Party—their support for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in the face of the aggression and Iraqi threat, in gratitude for what the kingdom had given to Sudan and its people and to the Arab and the Islamic nation. His Excellency Al-Mahdi expressed their denunciation of the aggression and occupation to which the fraternal people of Kuwait were subjected. [passage omitted]

Commander Reports Units in Place in Saudi Arabia

NC2008125090 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1215 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Dhahran, 20 Aug (MENA)—Armed Arab and Islamic forces continue to arrive in Saudi Arabia. Military units from the Sultanate of Oman and Morocco arrived in the eastern area of Saudi Arabia today.

Staff Major General Muhammad 'Ali Bilal, commander of the Egyptian task force in Saudi Arabia, has stressed that all units of the Egyptian armed forces have arrived with the aim of consolidating the capabilities of Saudi Arabia. He added that more Egyptian forces would arrive should the Saudi authorities request more forces. Maj. Gen. Bilal added: We are prepared to go to any length in order to defend Saudi Arabia as in this case we will be defending Arabism.

Staff Lieutenant General Khalid Ibn-Sultan Ibn-'Abd-al-'Aziz, commander of the joint forces, yesterday visited a number of Saudi units and assured himself of their preparedness.

United Arab Emirates

Cabinet Discusses 'Latest Moves' in Gulf Crisis

LD2108114590 Dubayy Domestic Service in English 1038 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] UAE [United Arab Emirates] President His Highness Shaykh Zayid Bin Sultan al Nuhayyan chaired a cabinet meeting today to discuss the latest moves in the Gulf Crisis promoted by Iraq's invasion of Kuwait on 2 August.

Further on Cabinet Meeting

NC2108211690 Manama WAKH in Arabic 2048 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 21 Aug (WAKH)—The United Arab Emirates [UAE] has again stressed the need for a total and unconditional withdrawal of the Iraqi forces from Kuwaiti territory, the restoration of the legitimate government, and in implementation of the resolutions of the Gulf Cooperation Council, the emergency Arab summit in Cairo, the Arab League, the Islamic Conference Organization, and the UN Security Council.

This came in the meeting which the UAE Council of Ministers held under the chairmanship of President Shaykh Zayid Ibn-Sultan Al Nuhayyan to discuss the developments in the Gulf in light of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

The Council of Ministers expressed its support for all the president's efforts to deal with these developments. It also emphasized the stated basic and unchanging stands the UAE has adopted vis-a-vis these developments.

The Council of Ministers expressed appreciation for the stands adopted by Arab and friendly countries in supporting right, repulsing aggression, and supporting the international efforts to end the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait.

Defense Chief Meets Outgoing Soviet Ambassador

NC1808174290 Manama WAKH in English 1518 GMT 18 Aug 90

[Text] Dubayy, Aug 18 (WAKH)—UAE Minister of Defence Shaykh Muhammad Bin-Rashid al-Maktum today received Soviet Ambassador to the UAE Feliks Fedotov, who called on him at the end of his tenure in the country.

They also discussed ways to boost bilateral relations in trade and economic fields and reviewed the current situation in the Gulf region and the Soviet Union's stance towards it.

Shaykh Muhammad also received Consul of Turkey Daver Darende [name as received] who called on him at the end of his tenure in the UAE.

Indian Minister Arrives in Abu Dhabi

NC2108094390 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0835 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 21 Aug (WAKH)—Indian Civil Aviation Minister Arif Mohammed Khan arrived in Abu Dhabi today on a visit to the United Arab Emirates [UAE] within the framework of a tour of a number of states in the region.

The Indian minister said in an arrival statement that he will convey an oral message to UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid Ibn-Sultan Al Nuhayyan from the Indian prime minister on the current situation in the Gulf region. He will also hold talks with a number of officials on ways to develop bilateral relations.

Defense Minister Meets With Iranian Envoy

LD2208075690 Tehran IRNA in English 0540 GMT 22 Aug 90

[Text] Abu Dhabi, Aug. 22, IRNA—The latest developments in the Persian Gulf region were discussed in a meeting of Iran's ambassador to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Mohammad 'Ali Hadi [Najafabadi] and UAE Defence Minister Shaykh Muhammad Bin-Rashid [al-Maktum] here Tuesday.

Further details of the meeting have not been disclosed.

State Minister Meets Saudi, Indian Envoys

NC2208113290 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0900 GMT 22 Aug 90

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 22 Aug (WAKH)—Rashid 'Abdallah al-Nu'aymi, state minister for foreign affairs of the United Arab Emirates [UAE], conferred with Saudi Ambassador to UAE Muhammad 'Abdallah al-'Utaybi this morning.

According to the EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY, the two officials discussed the latest developments in the Gulf as well as bilateral ties.

Al-Nu'aymi also met this morning with Indian Civil Aviation Minister Arif Mohammed Khad. The two officials discussed the latest developments in the Gulf as well as bilateral ties and ways to promote these ties.

Yemen

Preparations To Intercept Iraqi Tanker Denied

EA2108212890 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 21 aug 90

[Text] A Foreign Ministry official spokesman has confirmed to the Yemeni News Agency, SABA, the inacurracy of the reports stating that Yemeni naval boats are getting ready to engage an Iraqi oil tanker proceeding toward Aden Port.

The spokesman stressed that the Yemeni Republic did not intend to intercept or obstruct international navigation in the Red Sea region, in the Strait of Bab al-Mandeb, the Gulf of Aden, or the Arabian Sea.

The official spokesman made it clear that the Yemeni Republic considered any act of this type undertaken by any other party as a violation of the UN Charter, as Perez de Cuellar, UN secretary general, stressed in the statement he issued on 17 August warning that any military force dispatched by any state to impose the UN sanctions against Iraq would violate the UN Charter since the UN Security Council has not supported using force.

Minister Visits Oman To Explain Peace Efforts

JN2008183190 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Brother Dr. 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Dali, minister of state for foreign affairs, paid a short visit to the Sultanate of Oman today and met with Sultan Qabus Ibn-Sa'id. In a statement to SABA' upon his return to Sanaa this evening, he said he conveyed a message from brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council, to his brother Sultan Qabus of Oman on bilateral relations and the recent serious developments in the Gulf and the Arab region.

The message, al-Dali added, also deals with the efforts and contacts undertaken by the Yemeni leadership to bring about a peaceful solution to the crisis without military threats, and with the necessary steps that should be taken to evade the dangers surrounding the Arab countries, especially fraternal Iraq. Concluding, he said he is carrying a reply to President Salih from his brother Sultan Qabus Ibn-Sa'id.

Soviet Envoy Arrives To Discuss Gulf Crisis

JN2008071090 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Mikhail Sytenko, the special envoy of the Soviet leadership, arrived in Sanaa early today on a visit as part of a tour of some Arab countries.

The Soviet envoy expressed his happiness over this visit after our people achieved unity. He informed the Yemeni news agency—SABA'—that the purpose of his visit is to exchange views with a number of Yemeni officials regarding the steps that could be taken in the future within the joint Yemeni-Soviet efforts to contain the crisis in the Gulf within the Arab family and through the United Nations.

On hand to receive the Soviet envoy were Deputy Foreign Minister Dr. Shayi' Muhsin, a representative from the Presidential Protocol, and Soviet Ambassador in Sanaa Veniamin Popov.

Minister Meets With British, French Envoys

JN2008072390 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Foreign Minister 'Abd-al-Karim al-Iryani received at his office yesterday the French and British ambassadors to our country separately. He discussed bilateral relations with each of them.

PFLP Official Brings Habash Message to Salih

JN1908194490 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 19 Aug 90

[Text] Brother 'Abd-al-Rahim Malluh, member of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP] Political Bureau and of the PLO Central Council, arrived in Sanaa today on a visit of several days to our country.

In a statement to the YEMENI NEWS AGENCY, SABA', the Palestinian official said that he is carrying a message to brother Lieutenant General 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, chairman of the Presidential Council, from PFLP Secretary General brother George Habash, dealing with the current developments in the Arab region and the challenges to our Arab nation. He explained that he will hold talks with a number of brother officials on the status of the Palestinian revolution, the blessed intifadah, and the situation in the Arab region in light of the imperialist U.S.-NATO military presence, which is aimed at recovering control over the region's people, wealth, and resources.

The Palestinian official stressed the Palestinian and Arab peoples' ability to confront foreign dangers and challenges. He noted that the Palestinian and Yemeni stances are identical on all these issues, whether regarding the imperialist presence on Arab waters or territory and the basis of the solution to the attendant problems, or the dangers of this presence and ways to confront them.

Concluding his statement, brother Malluh said he was happy to be visiting our country after the merger and the declaration of the Republic of Yemen. He said that this visit will provide a good opportunity to reiterate how PFLP views Yemeni unity, which is seen as a basic support of the Yemeni and Palestinian people and the entire Arab nation.

He was received by brothers Sha'th al-'Umar, member of the Advisory Council, House of Representatives, and Yemeni Socialist Party Central Committee; 'Abd-al-Malik Mansur, member of the general committee and head of the popular organizations committee of the General People's Congress Standing Committee; and brother Abu-al-'Izz, PFLP representative in Sanaa.

Saddam Addresses 21 Aug Letter to Bush

JN2108165490 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 21 Aug 90

["Text of open letter" from President Saddam Husayn to U.S. President George Bush on 21 August—read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Once again, President Bush stands in front of Americans to twist words, hide motives or part of those motives, and mix the causes with the results. In his statement yesterday, 20 August 1990, in front of the American war veterans, he dealt with the issue of the Americans who are in Iraq and called them hostages. This despite the fact that the the Iraqi statements have explained beyond a doubt that the situation of the Americans here is the result of a real aggression committed against the Arab nation and Iraq and that President Bush himself and his ally, Thatcher, are the ones who are carrying out this aggression. Had the aggression not been committed and had President Bush made a real assessment of the interests of the American people and citizens, Americans and others would not have faced what they have.

Despite this, what they have had to face so far is the lightest treatment imposed by pressing circumstances even by American criteria themselves. And how is this? President Bush knows—or I suppose he knows—that America itself held tens of thousands of its own nationals just because they were of Japanese origin. It based this act on the rule of choosing the lesser of two evils. If this precedent exists and is proven on the U.S. record, in addition to other precedents contained on the record of mankind, is it not a kind of racism to allow other states, including the American, that which is not allowed to Arabs, including Iraqis?

Despite all this, the Iraqis have clearly said that what took place is a kind of formula pressed upon us, not an option among many options. We are pained that this has happened.

Not allowing some foreigners to travel is not revenge, but deterrence of a crime of aggression President Bush intends to commit against the Iraqi people following his criminal occupation of the land of Kaaba and the tomb of the prophet, may God's prayers and blessings be upon him. If he commits such a crime, a big catastrophe will be inflicted not only on the region, but on the world.

President Bush went on to speak about outlaws; he makes a comparison—with a clear purpose—between Iraq and what it represents on one hand and Hitler on the other. He forgets that all these descriptions apply to him. This is because Iraq did not bring its fleets and aircraft to attack America and Europe. It was President Bush and those who were dragged with him to the abyss who boarded their ships and aircraft and came as invaders to our region. After desecrating the holy places and violating taboos, they want to kill the people and deprive them of their human nature. Is there any doubt of the application of these descriptions to Bush when he intends to ignite a war that would burn the entire world? Is there more evidence on his disregard of all initiatives and solutions which we presented, whether with regard to the origin of the problem or with regard to the issue of the foreigners who are the result of the original problem?

It is definitely misbehavior, even poor insight and wisdom, for the White House to reject our initiative of 12 August 1990 a few hours after it was announced on the air and before President Bush took it upon himself to ask for the official text, out of fear that the translation was inaccurate or that the sentences were deficient for technical reasons.

Is this possible, President of the United States of America? Whoever does not want history to link him to the base characteristics of Hitler, must search thoroughly for peaceful means and not rush into preparations for war. What we presented in our initiative of 12 August 1990 and in our letter to the foreign families, who the National Assembly decided to host, is a clear way for anyone to distance himself from the base descriptions of Hitler.

We are among those who wish to be associated with all the characteristics of love and peace that are desired by the peoples of the world. At the same time, we defend, without fear from any arrogant and sinful tyrant or aggressor, the principles of our religion and holy shrines and the honor of the homeland and nation, even all the values of humanity combined.

It has become clear that claiming the U.S. forces came here to defend Saudi Arabia is an argument that holds no water in the face of contrary facts. This is because the reality on the ground confirms that Iraq does not intend to attack anyone, including Saudi Arabia. However, to say that your forces came here to defend American interests, you know that the Arabs, including Iraq, are not opposed to legitimate interests, whether of the West in general or the United States. You also know that prosperity, scientific and technical progress, and the promotion and flourishing of growth cannot be achieved in the way the Arabs hope without cooperation with the West. To achieve this, the Arabs have to sell oil; the major oil market is Europe and the United States, in addition to Japan.

I assume that President Bush knows that Iraq, for example, sold a third of its oil to the United States until 2 August 1990 and that Iraq was against the feverish price increases that took place in 1973. We have documents to prove it. At any rate, the Arabs, including Iraq, wish to sell their oil for all the purposes we have already mentioned, not to drink it or freeze it. The fact that Iraq owns, more or less, 20 percent of the world's oil reserves does not annul the principles we have already referred to. If whoever owns oil is boycotted by the world, it would be all the more reason for the world to boycott America and the Saudi Arabian Government. After all, is not food more vital to the human being than oil? We answer by

saying yes. By all human standards, it is more vital than oil. The human being cannot survive without food.

If President Bush's criteria for boycotts, hostility, war, and siege are applicable to Iraq merely because it will, or that it already does, own 20 percent of the world's oil reserves, then it is all the more reason that these standards, in every sense, be applied to those who own the same percentage or more of food, primarily cereals.

Only then, the world must be against America and Australia primarily. If U.S. interests have become so small and narrow in Bush's view that they are restricted only to the narrow corner of relations between Bush and Fahd, and to their mutual interests—which precede Bush's assumption of the Presidency and coincided with the elections; and if their interests have become so narrow that they do not consider them as they should in terms of good and positive relations with a large and great nation, but consider them only with Jabir al-Ahmad, the Croesus of Kuwait, and his clique, who is unable to construct a useful sentence and who, along with people like him, has been a source of shame to the Arabs and proof to the West of their backwardness—then, you will be cursed by what you are doing.

Before concluding my letter, I would like to say that the source of capability and power, Mr. Bush, does not lie in the size of armies and technological superiority, nor in your alliance with those who betrayed their nation and people. It lies in the inclination toward right. However, God is greater and more powerful than everyone and, as we have previously said, America would not have been a superpower if it had not been influential in the world. In order to remain influential, it must respect the freedom of peoples and the freedom of nations to choose. It also must respect other people's sanctities and feeling. If you continue to ignore this, then I warn of the consequences, and I here record to history that your continuation in this policy will cause America to descend from its present status and it will lose many opportunities. In all circumstances, whether you choose war or boycott, you will lose and be defeated. And we will achieve victory, with God's help. God is great, and let the lowly be accursed.

[Signed] Saddam Husayn, 30 Muharram 1411 Hegira, corresponding to 21 August 1990.

Paper Says U.S. Aims To Secure Interests

JN2008102590 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0520 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Baghdad, 20 August (INA)—The newspaper AL-QADISIYAH has stressed that Iraq's capability to defend the sons of the Arab nation from the schemes of aggression stems from its absolute belief in confronting total evil.

The newspaper says in an editorial today that Iraq's capability under President Saddam Husayn is the decisive factor for all those who do not understand the language of logic and peace.

It affirms that the latest initiative proposed by President Saddam Husayn presents in itself a just solution to all the current circumstances, which some are attempting to exploit.

The paper says the presence of U.S. and western forces in Najd and Hejaz [Saudi Arabia] at the invitation of the agent Fahd is a measure aimed, according to the claims of this agent, to protect the land of Najd and Hejaz against any foreign aggression, inasmuch as it represents an aggressive scheme prepared a long time ago to control the oil wells of Najd and Hejaz, which contain the largest oil reserves in the world, in implementation of the United States' and the West's dream to control the economic potentials of the Arab homeland, impose the ugly U.S. policy, and deprive the Arabs of their resources with which they could confront the future challenges imposed by the imperialist and Zionist circles and U.S. presence in Najd and Hejaz. Everyone knows that this was a scheme prepared by the United States because it formed its rapid deployment forces whose first and major target is to occupy the Arab oil wells and deprive the Arabs of them.

It points to the exploitation of the agent of imperialism, Fahd, of these circumstances, which provided an opportunity for the imperialists to bring the U.S. forces with the specific purpose of paving the way before implementing the U.S. scheme against the entire nation.

It goes on to say: To continue implementation of the scheme as planned, the size of the U.S. forces and their equipment has increased and become more and more varied. This affirms beyond any shadow of doubt that the U.S. troops will stay in the region. This is confirmed by the U.S. defense secretary's statements that the period for which the troops will stay here is unknown. He attempted many times to avoid questions on specific information about how long the U.S. troops will stay in Najd and Hejaz.

The paper noted that the size of the U.S. troops has so far reached 65,000 soldiers and large numbers of aircraft and warships. At the same time, the U.S. defense secretary is asking the U.S. Administration to call up the reservists to join the ranks of the U.S. Army.

It stresses that all the evidence and proof indicate that the U.S. troops do not intend to leave Najd and Hejaz and that they are preparing for a direct aggression on Iraq, holding on to the oil wells in the Arabian Peninsula, and threatening the other oil regions in the Arabian Gulf. The weak excuses agent Fahd has used to dissociate himself from these facts confirm every day that Iraq has no designs on Najd and Hejaz. This is proven through evidence and facts.

The paper says that President Saddam Husayn's initiative, which he launched through his letter to the families of the foreigners in Iraq, affirmed this time incontrovertibly that Iraq does not harbor any designs toward the land of Najd and Hejaz, in addition to what it affirmed in the past that Iraq is bound by a nonaggression treaty

with Fahd's government. It continues: Once again, leader Saddam Husayn affirms in his initiative, his call for restoring security and stability in the region and moving the U.S. and foreign troops out of it to avert the catastrophe of war, which imperialism is preparing for, with the aim of striking Iraq at a time when they are getting nothing from Iraq except the decisive response which will transform the masses of U.S. troops and their allies to war coffins returning to the United States.

It affirms that the latest initiative proposed by leader Saddam Husayn represents in itself a just solution to all the current circumstances which some are seeking to exploit. At the same time, the iniative also provides factors for security not only in the region but the whole world, taking into consideration the strategic and economic importance of this region to the whole world.

The paper says that this initiative came, at this time, from the homeland of peace, Iraq, to affirm its true desire to prevent the catastrophes of war. At the same time, it reveals the reality of the imperialist schemes seeking to transform our Arab homeland into warehouses to secure the life of the West at the expense of the sons of the Arab people and transform this region into an arena of permanent struggle through which the West and the United States realize their dreams.

The paper emphasizes that the voice of Iraqi justice declared its stand frankly and clearly. Iraq's capability to defend the sons of the Arab homeland against the schemes of aggression is the capability of total belief when it confronts total evil. Iraq's capability under the leadership of Leader Saddam Husayn will be the decisive factor for all who do not understand the language of logic and peace.

Envoy to UN Cited on Hostage Issue

LD2108150290 London BBC Television Network in English 2130 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Interview with Iraqi Ambassador to the United Nations Dr. 'Abd-al-Amir al-Anbari in New York by news presenter Francine Stock in London on BBC 2 "Newsnight"—live]

[Excerpts] [Stock] Well, in our New York studio now is Iraq's ambassador to the UN, Dr. 'Abd-al-Amir al-Anbari. Good evening, Ambassador.

[Al-Anbari] Good evening to you.

[Stock] Can I ask you for your reaction to Mr. Shevardnadze's intervention in this situation?

[Al-Anbari] Well, actually, I just heard the news from you while in your studio, but I...

[Stock interrupts] So what is your reaction?

[Al-Anbari] I assume that every initiative, every proposal from Iraq or from any Arab country to provide a peaceful solution should be taken as a bona fide offer and taken very seriously. But unfortunately there are powers... Certainly the U.S. Government does not want a peaceful solution: They would like to occupy Saudi Arabia and they would like to violate the UN Charter and to use force and the humiliation against Iraq and the Arab nation.

[Stock] Can I turn now to the question of the hostages: Can you confirm that you are deliberately holding them in places which might possibly come under attack and that obviously they would be in grave danger if those places were to be attacked?

[Al-Anbari] No, let me start with the origin of the "hostage" case, as you call them. We don't call them "hostages." Also, there have been so many abusive words in English recently, but we don't call them "hostages;" they are guests. The reason we issued or changed our policy: Originally, they were free, they were staying in luxurious hotels, they can enjoy their freedom of movement and work, etcetera; but when the United States and, unfortunately, the United Kingdom violated the Resolution 661 of the Security Council by resorting to an act of war, blockading Iraqi ports and preventing the importation by Iraq of food and medicine, then that was an act of aggression in violation of the UN Charter, in violation of the Security Council's Resolution. And yet, they speak of law, of human rights, and of humanitarian concern. Why the Iraqi people should be held hostages by America and Britain? Answer this question, please.

[Stock] Can I ask you, Mr. Ambassador: If they are guests, why are they not allowed to leave? If they are guests, why are you saying that you are prepared to starve even newborn babies?

[Al-Anbari] Not at all. Actually, we are going to share with them whatever we have of food and medicine, even though we need it for ourselves. However, if we are going to suffer eventually because of the criminal, I would say, prohibition of food and medicine for the Iraqi people, Iraqi babies, Iraqi women, then everyone who live in Iraq has to suffer with the Iraqis...

[Stock interrupts] Mr. Ambassador...

[Al-Anbari] As simple as that.

[Stock] Mr. Ambassador, let us take the very real possibility that an Iraqi tanker were to be stopped by force in the Gulf: Would you then carry out any reprisals, any action against the "guests," as you call them?

[Al-Anbari] I doubt very much so. As a matter of fact, we have assured them, assured their government, that their safety, their security, their integrity is on the highest priority. However, we have also made it clear that our policy is self-defense: We will resist any aggression against Iraq, but we will not attack or commit any act of aggression against citizens or against countries.

[Stock] But can I take it from that that you intend to hold onto Kuwait now solely by the use of force, that you have given up on all diplomatic efforts?

[Al-Anbari] Well, you know that our president made a very genuine, a very important initiative on August 12. Unfortunately, the United States and some of its allies rejected that initiative offhand even before trying to read the full text of the initiative. However, we are still interested, and we are hoping for an Arab solution to the problem. This has been the tradition: When the Arabs have problems, they themselves try to solve it, either within the Arab League or bilaterally. And right now a number of heads of state—of Arab heads of state, such as King Husayn, the president of Yemen, and other leaders—are trying to find and formulate an acceptable solution to everyone.

[Stock interrupts] Can you...

[Al-Anbari] So why wouldn't the West let them do their job?

[Stock] Can you tell us whether there will be any more movements of Westerners to other unspecified places within Iraq?

[Al-Anbari] Well, I assume most of them, they would be living with our Iraqi families, and they would share with them their foods and their medicine and their facilities, but their exact location I really don't know. [passage omitted]

[Stock] You probably heard what Captain Nash, relative of one of the hostages, said. You now know that the rest of the world condemns you; you hear a firsthand account of somebody here. How can you still justify your position?

[Al-Anbari] Well, you see, for the benefit of the gentleman in your studio in London, let me remind him that Resolution 661 passed by the Security Council imposing sanctions on Iraq specificially excluded medicine and food from the boycott, and also, by implication, did not authorize or allow any use of force against Iraq, because such a measure should be taken under Article 42 of the Charter. This is why now we see Britain and France and other ... and the United States trying to issue a new resolution in order to retroactively validate their action. But up till now, it's a crime against law and against the Iraqis.

Assembly Speaker Says Foreigners Safe

JN2008152290 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1455 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Baghdad, 20 Aug (INA)—National Assembly Speaker Sa'di Mahdi Salih has stated the following to the IRAQI NEWS AGENCY:

In response to official U.S. and Western statements on the fact that we, as representatives of the Iraqi people, are hosting foreigners in Iraq with the aim of deterring aggression and averting war and attendant disasters, we note and remind the people of the world that during World War II the United States held around 100,000 of its own citizens of Japanese origin in special detention camps in anticipation of a possible Japanese attack on its eastern coast. The United States did not take such a measure against its citizens of German, Italian, or any other origin.

We once again assure foreigners in our hospitality and their families and friends that they will be secure and in peace and under the care of the Iraqi families hosting them. We hope their stay with us will not be long, that peace and stability will prevail in the region, and that the clouds of war and aggression and attendant disasters will disappear once and for all.

AFP Lists Number of Foreigners in Iraq, Kuwait

NC2108151090 Paris AFP in English 1448 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Nicosia, Aug 21 (AFP)—The following is a list compiled by Agence France-Presse of the number of foreigners in Iraq and Kuwait as of midday Tuesday. The figures change each day as thousands of nationals from countries deemed not hostile by Baghdad stream across the border into Jordan.

	Iraq	Kuwait
UNITED STATES	600	3,000
CANADA	200	600
AUSTRALIA	160	—
EUROPE		
SOVIET UNION	7,790	170
BRITAIN	500	4,000
FRANCE	199	270
ITALY	334	150
WEST GERMANY	450	265
IRELAND	300	50
NETHERLANDS	150	80
GREECE	15	186
SPAIN	79	105
DENMARK	14	83
BELGIUM	42	21
TURKEY	3,000	2,500
SWITZERLAND	69	53
FINLAND	23	23
PORTUGAL	50	50
SWEDEN	40	120
AUSTRIA	70	70
YUGOSLAVIA	9,500	125
POLAND	2,500	300
HUNGARY	30	150
ROMANIA	—	2,950
MALTA	—	7
CYPRUS	12	20
AFRICA		
EGYPT	400,000	200,000

	Iraq	Kuwait
ASIA		
LEBANON	40,000	40,000
IRAN	—	43,000
SOUTH KOREA	612	96
CHINA	4,800	4,200
PAKISTAN	10,000	90,000
INDIA	10,000	170,000
INDONESIA	unknown	unknown
BANGLADESH	80,000	80,000
SRI LANKA	unknown	70,000
PHILIPPINES	5,000	55,000
THAILAND	2,000	7,000
MALAYSIA	17	298
TAIWAN	—	150
JAPAN	230	278
AMERICAS		
MEXICO	6	25
BRAZIL	—	300
ARGENTINA	unknown	unknown
PALESTINIANS	170,000	350,000

Nation To Allow Indians To Return Via Jordan

BK2008130690 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Iraq has agreed to allow Indians in Kuwait and Iraq to cross the border into Jordan for their journey back home to India. The agreement follows talks between the external affairs minister, Mr. I.K. Gujral, and his Iraqi counterpart, Mr. Tariq 'Aziz, in Baghdad. According to the Iraqi news agency, the two leaders also discussed relations between the two countries and stressed that they are eager to expand these relations to promote their joint interests. They dealt with the latest developments in the gulf as well as a number of issues of common interest.

Mr. Gujral is going to Kuwait today to get firsthand information about the problems of the Indian community there.

National Assembly Warns France Against Blockade

JN2108105490 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1029 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Aug (INA)—The National Assembly has warned France that Iraq will deal with its nationals in the same way as U.S. nationals if its government contributes to the United States blockade against Iraq.

Replying to a French Foreign Ministry statement, a National Assembly spokesman said: Until yesterday we viewed the French Government as a friend, but now, after a French Government spokesman has said that France will contribute to the U.S. blockade, and because a blockade is an act of war, we renounce this friendship with the French Government and, if the French have actually enforced their statement and put it into action, we announce that we will deal with the French nationals in the same way we deal with U.S. nationals.

The National Assembly speaker added: We appeal to the friendly French people, who have a bright civilization, to resist the policy of their government which involved them in declaring war against a friendly state and people.

[Dated] 30 Muharram 1411 Hegira, corresponding to 21 August 1990

Child Care Group Urges Lift of 'Unjust' Blockade

JN2108181390 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Statement by the Organization for Child Care in Iraq, issued on 21 August]

[Text] At a time when the world has begun to implement the UN-approved international agreement on children's rights—which provides for securing the widest forms of social, educational, humanitarian, medical, and nutritional care and protection for children—the child in Iraq is being subjected to unjustified aggression, foreign blockade, starvation, threats, and unjust intimidation as a result of the Western imperialist policies, especially those of the United States and Britain. These policies worsened after the U.S. occupation of Najd and Hejaz [Saudi Arabia] and the deployment of invading ground forces and fleets in preparation for a premeditated military aggression against Iraq; the victims will be innocent children, women, and old men.

The blockade by U.S., British, and other forces and fleets is aimed at preventing the arrival of food, medication, and other means of livelihood for Iraq's children and their families. This is a flagrant violation of all international norms and conventions, especially the international agreement on children's rights, and of the most fundamental principles of the treatment of children, to whom humanity owes its dearest achievements.

Our steadfast Iraq under its intelligent and historic leader President Saddam Husayn, the leader of peace and protector of childhood, may God protect him, stresses its great eagerness for peace and stability in the region and the world. Just as much, Iraq stresses its high state of readiness to counter all forms of aggression, threat, and blockade. Iraq's children raise their voice high behind their historic leadership: take your hands off our country, pull your forces and fleets out of our territory and waters, and stop your illegitimate blockade of our medicines, vaccines, food, and clothes in compliance with world principles, laws, the international declaration [of human rights], and the international agreement on children's rights.

While we appeal to international organizations, primarily UNICEF, to oppose this unjust campaign, illegitimate measures, and international piracy against childhood in Iraq, we highly appreciate all the organizations, countries, and peoples that have raised their voice high against this unjust campaign, and who, justly and rightly, have supported Iraq, its people, and its children under their historic leadership.

[Signed] Dr. Umid Midhat Mubarak, minister of labor and social affairs, and chairman of the Organization for Child Care in Iraq.

Death Sentence Imposed for Harboring Foreigners

LD2108163290 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1527 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Baghdad, August 21 (TANJUG)—The Iraqi Interior Ministry today warned that every citizen, regardless of nationality, harbouring foreigners—who are forbidden to leave the country—would be sentenced to death.

The Interior Ministry spokesman said that the law applied throughout the country, from north Iraq to Kuwait.

Iraq today again denied reports in some Egyptian and Saudi papers that Egyptian diplomats in Baghdad are not allowed to leave the country. Describing such reports as arbitrary, the Iranian Government spokesman said that Egyptian diplomats were free to enter and leave Iraq as they please.

The Iraqi parliament spokesman, on the other hand, today rejected the possibility of French citizens leaving Iraq as long as Paris supported the economic blockade of Iraq.

Envoy Returns From Jordan, Yemen, Sudan

JN2108193390 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1820 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Baghdad, 21 Aug (INA)—President Saddam Husayn's envoy Umid Midhat Mubarak, minister of labor and social affairs, returned to Baghdad today, finishing a tour that included Jordan, Yemen, and Sudan.

During this tour, the presidential envoy conveyed messages from his excellency the president to his brothers the leaders of these countries on brotherly relations and developments in the Arab arena.

'Aziz, India's Gujral Discuss Regional Situation

JN1908140190 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1157 GMT 19 Aug 90

[Text] Baghdad, 19 Aug (INA)—Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received Indian Minister of External Affairs I.K. Gujral here today. They discussed relations between the two friendly countries and stressed that they were eager to expand these relations to promote their joint interests. Talks also dealt with the latest developments in the region, as well as a number of issues of common interest. The meeting was attended by the Foreign Ministry under secretary, the head of the second political desk, and the Indian ambassador in Baghdad.

Withdrawal From Iranian Territory Completed

JN2108163290 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1620 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate: Following our statement yesterday on the implementation of the order issued by Staff Field Marshal President Saddam Husayn, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, on the withdrawal of our forces from Iranian territory, the units of the III Army Corps completed their pullout today. By this, the units of our Armed Forces have completed their withdrawal from all the Iranian territories.

[Dated] 21 August 1990, corresponding to 30 Muharram 1411 Hegira.

Fifth Group of POW's Exchanged 21 Aug

JN2108190290 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1825 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 21 Aug (INA)—The fifth batch of Iraqi prisoners of war [POW's] arrived in the pure homeland today. [passage omitted]

The fifth batch of the Iranian POW's was also handed over [to the International Red Cross] today. Iraq decided to release the Iranian prisoners in accordance with the message sent by leader President Saddam Husayn to Iranian President 'Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani on 15 August.

Presidential Office Sets Clock Forward in Kuwait

JN2008173490 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1635 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] The Presidential Office has decided to start summer in Iraq's southern areas—the cities of al-Nida' [al-Ahmadi], al-Jahrah, and Kuwait—and to set the clock one hour forward as of today, 20 August, until 30 September 1990.

Youth-Student Body Offers 'Suicide Force' Role

JN2108112890 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1955 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Baghdad, 20 AUG (INA)—President Saddam Husayn has received a cable from the Arab and Islamic Student and Youth Front for Resisting U.S. and Zionist Occupation in the Arab Homeland [al-jabhah al-tulabbiyah wa al-shababiyah al-'arabiyah wa al-islamiyah li muqawamat al-ihtilal al-amriki wa al-suhyuni fi al-'alam al-'arabi], in which it expresses its support for and solidarity with Iraq and its denunciation of the U.S. and Western troops' presence in the Arab Gulf region.

The representatives of the Arab and Islamic student and youth organizations said in their cable: We, the masses of Arab and Islamic student and youth movements beseech God to protect you and keep you as a support for the Arab nation. We also beseech Him to guide your steps for the good of this nation toward a blessed Arab unity which would be the basis for preserving and elevating the word of God and Muslims in order for peace to prevail through the full restoration of usurped lands and rights to their owners, foremost being the two holy mosques.

They added: We are aware of the grave dangers caused by the collusion of some Arab leaders, who sold themselves and their dignity to the foreigner when they opened the doors of the holy peninsula to be desecrated by the U.S. invasion armies for the first time in history. These armies aim at launching a brutal military aggression on brave Iraq and tightening the economic blockade on its struggling people, who are the force which protects the nation and who will liberate Palestine.

They added: In view of the vanguard role we should assume to confront this occupation with all ways and means, the representatives of the Arab and Islamic student and youth organizations for resisting U.S. and Zionist occupation of the Arab homeland met to mobilize the resources of the student and youth movements in the Arab homeland and the Islamic countries and devote their efforts to serve the objective of achieving the evacuation of the forces of occupation from the Arab countries.

In their cable, the representatives said: Mr. President, we would like to announce that we are awaiting a signal from you to become a suicide force that will strike at the U.S. and Zionist interests in any place that the arm of our student and youth masses can reach. God is great, and loftiness to the Arabs.

Closure of Straits Would Be 'Causus Belli'

TA2208042690 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0400 GMT 22 Aug 90

[Text] Our army affairs correspondent Karmela Menashe reports that Israel is closely monitoring reports that Iraq has directed missiles at population centers in Israel. She was told that all the necessary steps have been taken. Experts say that if the reports that Iraqi forces have been deployed in Yemen are true, this means that a new front has been opened, this one against Saudi Arabia. Sources in Israel have said that if Iraq tries to close the Bab el-Mandeb Straits, this will constitute a direct threat to sea routes to Israel and the West, and will be a causus belli.

Shamir Says 'No Signs' Husayn 'Losing Control'

TA2108174590 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Shamir says Israel is closely following events in Jordan and that not all developments there are positive. He stressed that Israel has an interest in a stable Jordan with King Husayn in control. So far, said Shamir, there are no signs that the king is losing control. The prime minister was speaking at a meeting with Senator Frank Lautenberg, in Israel as part of a UJA [United Jewish Appeal] mission. [passage omitted]

Shamir Says More Defense Aid May Be Requested

TA2208083990 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 22 Aug 90 p 12

[Report by diplomatic correspondent David Makovsky]

[Excerpt] Israel may call on the U.S. Congress to help bolster its defenses in the aftermath of the Persian Gulf crisis, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir told visiting U.S. Sen. Frank Lautenberg (Dem.-N.J.) during a discussion yesterday, officials say.

According to these officials, Shamir told Lautenberg that "Israel has two tasks ahead: increasing its resources for our defense in view of the situation that will be determined in the region, and absorbing massive immigration." He said he hoped Congress would be supportive of both endeavors.

However, Shamir's statement made it unclear if Israel would only seek increased U.S. support above the current $1.8 billion if it became involved in a war or if other circumstances, such as a protracted U.S.-Iraqi stalemate in the Persian Gulf, would also warrant a request for increased funding. Officials in the Prime Minister's Office declined to elaborate. [passage omitted]

Genscher, De Michelis: Tel Aviv Right on Iraq

TA1908191890 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew 1800 GMT 19 Aug 90

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Foreign Minister David Levi told the Cabinet that his two European counterparts with whom he met last week, the FRG's Genscher and Italy's De Michelis, admitted that Israel's estimates about Iraq were proven correct, while the Europeans' were proven wrong. The two foreign ministers rejected, and termed a trick, Saddam Husayn's suggestions for an overall arrangement in the area.

The Italian foreign minister said that if the PLO does not change its position on Iraq, there will be a shift in the EC position toward the organization.

De Michelis Takes Message From Levi to Amman

TA1908192990 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew 1800 GMT 19 Aug 90

[Text] The Italian foreign minister has said that Israel's intentions are very clear to Amman and that the Israeli commitment to avoid any initiative that might destabilize Jordan was highly appreciated there. Minister Gianni de Michelis visited Amman last weekend and delivered this message, given to him in Rome several days ago by Foreign Minister David Levi, to Prince Hasan. He updated his Israeli counterpart on this in a cable this evening.

Officials Astonished by Levi Demand on Masks

TA2008052290 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] The controversy between Foreign Minister David Levi and the defense establishment over whether gas masks should be distributed immediately to the entire population continues. Defense Ministry sources told the Voice of Israel there are no grounds for panic and the gas masks should not be issued to the entire population at this stage. However, the office of the foreign minister says that is not the reply of the IDF [Israel Defense Forces], and IDF spokesman, Nahman Shay, confirmed he did not issue it. Nor did the chief of staff, General Shomron, react to Levi's demand. However, the Voice of Israel's defense correspondent says after consultation among all the senior officials in the IDF, it was decided that there are no grounds for distributing gas masks to the entire population. Our reporter Karmela Menashe says the senior officials expressed astonishment at Foreign Minister Levi's demand.

Umm Al-Fahm Mayor on 'Boycott' of U.S. Goods

TA2008131490 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 20 Aug 90 p 3

[Report by Muhammad Khalilah]

[Text] Shaykh Ra'id Salah, the mayor of Umm al-Fahm, and one of the leaders of the Islamic Movement in Israel,

has issued a call to boycott U.S. products and to shun Western-style dress. During religious sermons given over the weekend in the largest Umm al-Fahm mosque, the shaykh said: "The people are helpless. Our modest contribution to the struggle against the U.S. conquest of Saudi Arabia is to boycott U.S. goods."

Shaykh Salah announced his decision to renounce Western dress and start donning the traditional Oriental galabia, but he clarified that this was not out of any desire to emulate the reactionary Arab shaykhs, but only because of his respect for tradition and as a sign of differentiation between the people of the Orient and the Westerners.

The shaykh urged Muslim men and women to follow in his footsteps. Shaykh Salah promised to set a personal example, and appeared at the Saturday [18 Aug] meeting of the Supreme Arab Follow Up Committee garbed in an Oriental gown and wearing a white turban.

Goren on Arab Support for Iraq, Gulf Refugees

TA2108071590 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0500 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Interview with Shmu'el Goren, the coordinator of government activities in the territories, by Mikha Friedman and Ya'ei Dan—live]

[Text] [Friedman] Shmu'el Goren, the coordinator of government activities in the territories is in our studio. Good morning, Mr. Goren.

[Goren] Good morning.

[Friedman] Is there any excessive danger in the pro-Iraqi sentiment in the territories, or are the residents just letting off steam, something which could even be positive in itself; instead of directing their energies against us they are expended in support of him [Saddam Husayn]?

[Goren] I feel that we must keep our eyes peeled, and pay attention even to the letting off of steam. We must remember that the feeling of identification that was manifested mainly during the first few days in demonstrations of support, [distribution of] leaflets, and vituperative and unrestrained incitement even in the local press, can certainly lead to an eruption of violence.

[Friedman] Does the Islamic Movement, which is inspired by Iran, perhaps now serve as a calming, or balancing element as against the other side made up of the PLO supporters in the territories?

[Goren] No. We have not witnessed any element trying to calm the PLO supporters in the territories. We have witnessed a feeling of identification and hope by residents of the territories who regard the invasion of Kuwait as a godsend; here comes a savior who can perhaps solve their problems. This matter must also be viewed against the background of a certain frustration with the intifadah, which as far as they are concerned has been going on for a long time without any significant change in the direction of positive results.

[Dan] Do they really believe that Saddam Husayn can physically resolve their problems, or liberate the territories?

[Goren] They were ready to believe it, especially during the first few days. They felt something new had appeared on the scene, and as usual their imagination started working overtime. Over the last few days we have perceived a certain change in the atmosphere.

[Dan] Is there any awareness among the residents of the territories that as a result of their support for Saddam Husayn they may forfeit a great deal of their previous success with world public opinion?

[Goren] I assume that if they would have given the matter some thought in the beginning, their support of Saddam Husayn would have been toned down. The fact of the matter is that they have now begun to feel the tangible and daily results of their actions. As far as they are concerned this damage is very serious.

[Dan] Perhaps the residents of the territories will gradually stop their support of Saddam Husayn when they realize that it harms their cause?

[Goren] I do not know if they will call off this support or not. I can only point to the facts noted in the field.

[Dan, interrupting] The facts are that there is a decline...?

[Goren] The results of this invasion, regarding the residents of the territories, are the loss of massive assistance. The monies sent home directly by Palestinians working in Kuwait is estimated by us to stand at $150 million annually. This sum may now be lost, at least to a great extent. One should bear in mind that the Kuwaitis, the Saudis, and the Gulf states constitute the major source of financial assistance for the PLO. All this may now be jeopardized. I am not even mentioning the educational and health institutions in the territories which may now have lost their major source of funds.

[Dan] Not to mention the loss of political sympathy which the PLO or the residents of the territories had already gained?

[Goren] I also assume that they did not give the matter enough thought, and did not estimate that the world would evince such a united opposition to this invasion, including most of the Arab world. This definitely constitutes a surprise for them, and I can quote one of their notables who said—when I asked him several days ago why they had rushed to embrace Saddam Husayn—that they had simply made a mistake.

[Friedman] Mr. Goren, you have spoken about a state of chaos in the field, and I assume you are referring to all those refugees or people who entered the territories having a home to return to, and who now suddenly find themselves—in the wake of the Gulf crisis—stranded in

Nabulus, Hebron, and Janin. What are the numbers? What is the scope of the problem, and what are we doing to help them?

[Goren] Well, they had the misfortune to be stranded here during the summer months, which is vacation time in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia. Large numbers of people have been stuck here, whether they are Kuwaitis or Palestinians here on a visit. We are doing our best to offer them some kind of solution, on a humanitarian basis of course, and we try to help them. Another concern, which is quite grave, is the issue of exports. As soon as the export season starts, the residents of the territories may be hurt, especially in the field of citrus fruits, oil, and similar goods, that the residents of Judaea, Samaria, and the Gaza Strip were accustomed to export to those places—now there is good reason to believe that these fields of export will suffer.

[Friedman] In that case, the total blockade on Iraq also includes us?

[Goren] Precisely. Therefore, we are looking for alternative export markets for them....

[Friedman, interrupting] Wait a minute. I want to understand this point. How can we make sure that no goods or provisions from the territories reach Iraq via Jordan? Which body controls this marketing route?

[Goren] This poses no problem. There are two bridges which serve as transit points into Jordan, and I can promise you we control, and know about each and every piece of cargo going through those two bridges—right down to the last kilo. This is not the problem. The problem is to find markets for those exporters that used to send their goods to Kuwait and the Gulf states. Their livelihood will be detrimentally effected, and as I said, we are looking for alternative markets for them.

[Dan] Just one last question. The argument has already started about whether the residents of the territories should be included in the distribution of gas masks. Do the residents of the territories expect to....

[Goren, interrupting] I would not like to comment on the issue of the distribution of gas masks, as it is currently at the center of a political debate. In principle, they will receive gas masks with the rest of the people.

[Dan] Do they expect to get them?

[Goren] We have already stated a number of times that we consider ourselves responsible for both the Jewish and Arab populace in Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip, and we will act accordingly.

[Dan] Have they said anything regarding this matter?

[Goren] They do not feel so comfortable publicly requesting assistance from us in this domain, as their frustration is clearly evident. In private conversations, however, they have certainly expressed concern.

[Friedman] Thank you very much, Mr. Goren.

Crisis Causes 'Severe Plunge' in Stock Exchange

TA2008103490 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 20 Aug 90 p 1

[Report by Galit Lipkis]

[Text] The Tel Aviv Stock Exchange took another severe plunge yesterday as investors reacted to increased tension in the Gulf and irrational rises last week.

The majority of blue chips traded on the two-sided session plummeted between 10 and 12 percent. The remaining stock posted a sellers-only quote. In early trading, blue chips fell by up to 7 percent, the maximum allowed during the morning session.

Incidents in Territories, Comments on Gulf

TA2108093390

[Editorial report] Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English on 21 August carries a report by Jon Immanuel and Matthew Seriphs on page 10 which reports that after he and two others were issued travel bans yesterday "Faysal al-Husayni told the JERUSALEM POST that he was given the order by two men who arrived at his home yesterday evening in a police car. He said he did not plan to appeal the order as he did not feel that this was a suitable time for him to go abroad."

The POST also reports that "a petrol bomb was thrown at a military jeep during an IDF [Israel Defense Forces] patrol in Nabulus on Sunday [19 August] night, leading to a roundup of several teenagers. The IDF confirmed the incident."

"In Janin, a curfew imposed Sunday night on part of the town as soldiers searched houses for persons wanted for security offenses was lifted yesterday, local sources said." "The IDF confirmed the curfew and search."

"Residents of northern Gaza's al-Shaykh Radwan neighborhood clashed with troops yesterday afternoon and three were injured by plastic-coated bullets, Palestinians said. In the evening, a 15-year-old boy from Rafah was shot in the leg, they added."

Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew on 21 August carries a page-11 update on incidents in the territories by Hayim Broida, David Regev, and Tamar Trabelsi. The report says that "a group calling itself The Black Tigers yesterday assumed responsibility for murdering a resident of the Tulkarm refugee camp whose body was found near the village of Dannabah in Samaria bearing signs of severe violence. The background for the murder—suspicion of collaboration with Israeli authorities."

"In the last few days, differences of opinion in the territories about the Palestinian attitude toward the Iraqi takeover of Kuwait have increased. East Jerusalem figures have claimed that the Palestinians were wrong to

take the stand they have on the issue, because it has resulted in a deep rift with the Israeli left-wing and loss of sympathy among the Israeli public. They claimed that Israelis have misinterpreted their stand condemning the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait while standing by Iraq in its struggle against the United States."

The report adds that "six IDF soldiers were slightly bruised in a violent riot in the Qezi'ot detention camp yesterday."

Writing about the riot on page A6 in Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew on 21 August, military correspondent Eytan Rabin adds that "when the soldiers felt their lives were in danger, they fired in the air and threw tear gas grenades at the rioting inmates.

"Unofficial military sources reported from the Qezi'ot detention facility that more than 15 inmates were hurt by tear gas inhalation, while several others suffered injuries from beatings."

The YEDI'OT AHARONOT report noted earlier that "an IDF soldier was slightly injured, and treated on the spot, when a home-made explosive device went off at an IDF training area in Samaria yesterday."

"After a long period of relative quiet, last night a firebomb was thrown at an Israeli car traveling on the Qalqilyah-Nabulus road. The bottle missed the car and exploded on the road, causing no damage."

Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew on 21 August carries an ITIM report on page 20 saying that "the security forces in Gaza have uncovered a group of members of a Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] popular committee," and that three youths were detained in connection to that.

"In another incident in the al-Shaykh Radwan neighborhood of Gaza the security forces found in one of the mosques materials indicating that the place served as a clinic for treatment of intifadah casualties."

Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew at 0700 GMT on 21 August reports: "Today a general strike is being staged in the territories called for by Hamas." The strike is reported to be "fully observed, and laborers have not left for work in Israel."

Commentary Views Intelligence 'Failure' in Gulf

TA2108112590 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 21 Aug 90 p B1

[Commentary by Re'uven Pedatzur]

[Text] The failure of Israeli intelligence to provide an early warning about the date of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait has caused a wave of comments and commentaries in Israel. While many, including senior politicians, claimed it was a blunder, the Army's Intelligence Branch [IB] personnel made it clear that they had no way of providing a warning on the beginning of the takeover of Kuwait. The decision to carry it out was made by a single man who is in the habit of not including advisers and assistants in the decisionmaking process, senior IB officers explained in their briefings, adding that the IB has no means of penetrating Saddam Husayn's mind.

The difficulties facing the Israeli intelligence in its attempt to gather information about activites in Iraq were recently revealed by IB chief Major General Amnon Shahaq in an interview he gave the Intelligence Corps organ: "In Iraq they can carry out the biggest and most beautiful drill and here we will hear nothing. It is far away. It is much simpler in Syria. You can send the Air Force everyday to photograph Syria without crossing a border or breaking an agreement. You cannot photograph Iraq unless you cross the borders of at least one Arab country."

From the IB point of view, the failure to provide an early warning about the invasion to Kuwait may be justifiable. It does, however, raise serious questions about the intelligence estimates and setup in the past few years, and its future ability to carry out one of its basic tasks in an arena where the rules of the game have changed. The minute Iraq climbed up the scale of Israel's most active and dangerous enemies, the Israeli intelligence job description expanded to include a demand to provide an early warning about this country's belligerent intentions. The importance of providing an early warning about Iraq's military moves has increased because such a warning would allow essential acts of civil and military defense. The inability to intercept Iraq's ballistic missiles makes the early warning element critical.

The failure in obtaining the information about the decision to invade Kuwait indicates a serious problem facing the IB in its intelligence coverage of Iraq. The Kuwaiti invasion plans were prepared over a long period of time and involved many Iraqi Army personnel.

The occupation plan included complex and complicated operations of landing forces from the air, use of naval forces, and an assault by a very large ground force. Still, the IB did not manage to obtain early information about the zero hour, or the general intentions of the Iraqi military operation.

At present the Israeli intelligence is facing a much more difficult challenge. Unlike the relatively long preparations for the Kuwaiti takeover operation, launching ballistic missiles does not require lengthy preparatory acts. An early warning ability against such a move is, therefore, more limited.

The intelligence failure is not only the absence of an early warning about Kuwait's takeover. It is a failure in the overall view of the situation evolving in the Gulf in the past few years. As early as 1980 the IB failed in its estimatation of basic details regarding Iraq. When the Iran-Iraq war broke out, then IB chief Major General Yehoshu'a Sagi believed that Iraq would defeat its neighbor in one week; the war lasted eight years. Also,

the IB did not foresee the conclusion of this war, and was surprised when the two sides agreed on a cease fire.

After the Gulf war ended, the IB estimated that it would take a long time for Iraq to recover and again become a threat that Israel must prepare for. Iraq's recovery was very fast, and Israel found itself topping the list of Saddam Husayn's enemies.

The major intelligence mistake focused on the erroneous estimate of Saddam's major goals for the near future. It was decided to invest very few resources against Iraq. The IB directed its main efforts against the neighboring confrontation countries, mainly Syria. The IB must now set up an intelligence infrastructure against the country that has become a most dangerous enemy.

To some extent, the Mosad shares with the IB the blame for its failure. Although it is the IB which makes up the list of priorities and presents it to all other components of the intelligence community, the Mosad also engages in predictions and prepares documents that include evaluations of expected political and military developments in Arab countries.

A short time before Kuwait was taken over, the Mosad prepared a document containing a firm assessment that Saddam would not invade Kuwait and instead would settle for imposing military pressure from across its borders.

The IB's failures on the Iraqi issue puts it in an uneasy spot when confronting the political level. Former Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin used to say that "no one who was ever involved in intelligence has ever managed to predict if and when a war would break out." His conclusion, therefore, was that the IB estimates should not be trusted; he could only trust the rough material it has gathered. I will make the assessments of the enemies' intentions myself, Rabin claimed, because I have more experience in decisionmaking processes than do the IB's analytical officers.

Today Rabin sits on the opposition bench. Nevertheless, there is a fear that his concept would be adopted by his successors in the defense establishment and the government. They must realize that the IB has remained the sole national evaluator. The decisionmakers will be making a grave mistake if they ignore its professional assessments and formulate their policies to correspond with their hearts' desires. The announcement that came from the Prime Minister's Office—according to which the Gulf crisis indicates just how unimportant it is to solve the Palestinian problem—represents this tendency.

New Arabic Paper in Nazareth Attacks Leftists

TA2208092190 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 22 Aug 90 p 12

[Report by Jon Immanuel]

[Text] A new Nazareth-based Arabic weekly called AL-RASID (THE OBSERVER) was launched yesterday with a blistering attack on Israeli leftists who have criticized Israeli Arab and Palestinian support for Saddam Husayn.

The editorial was specifically aimed at MKs [Knesset Member] Yosi Sarid (Citizen's Rights Movement) and El'azar Granot (MAPAM) [United Workers Party] for opinions expressed in the Israeli press last week to the effect that this support may have made further meetings of peace camp members with Palestinians futile and disqualified the PLO from participation in the peace process.

AL-RASID, which expects a circulation of about 10,000, said that "20 years of meetings with leftists have produced nothing and it is better to stop these meetings.

"The language of Saddam is the language understood by Israel and your experience as liberals is not useful to us."

The paper said that "the masses support Saddam because he is facing reactionary forces. We do not expect our support to liberate Palestine or end the occupation."

Embassy in Czechoslovakia Reopened After 25 Years

TA2008114290 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 20 Aug 90 p A15

[Report by Ilan Kfir]

[Text] A delegation from Czechoslovakia, headed by Deputy Foreign Minister Vojtech Vagner [name as published], will arrive in Israel at the beginning of next week for a political visit. The leaders of the Czechoslovak delegation will be guests of honor at the opening ceremony of the Czechoslovak Embassy in Tel Aviv.

The Israeli Embassy in Prague reopened at the end of last week after a 25-year hiatus in relations between the two countries. Israel was represented at the ceremony by Re'uven Merhav, the director general of the Foreign Ministry. The ceremony was also attended by top Czechoslavak Foreign Ministry officials. It caused much excitement in the Jewish community in Prague and was widely covered by the Czechoslovak media.

Knesset Member Ya'ir Tzaban [United Workers Party] and Shmu'el Jacobson, the secretary general of the Knesset, were among the Israeli guests. Future cooperation between the two countries was agreed upon during meetings Re'uven Merhav held in Prague with Czechoslovak leaders. The talks will continue during the visit of the Czechoslovak delegation to Israel.

Sharon 'Secretly' Goes Overseas To See Houses

TA1808080190 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 18 Aug 90

[Text] Housing and Construction Minister Ari'el Sharon secretly left for Europe yesterday on a lightning visit to closely examine prefabricated houses and trailers that the government and private entrepreneurs want to

import for immigrants, following the Knesset Finance Committee's approval of the funds needed to import some 20,000 housing units.

Our Gadi Sukenik reports that Sharon's main stop will be Britain, but the United States is also included on his itinerary. Minister Sharon wants to check the quality and price of the houses before placing the orders. Our reporter points out that Sharon's trip has aroused a lot of curiosity in many Israeli circles because large deals that will result in huge profits are at stake, and because of the consequent fierce competition.

Returns After Visit

TA2108192090 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew 1800 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Construction and Housing Minister Ari'el Sharon returned from abroad tonight. He visited plants specializing in prefabricated housing with the intention of importing ready-made housing and mobile homes to Israel.

Soviet Immigration Said Unaffected by Crisis

TA1908140490 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 19 Aug 90

[Text] Returning from a visit to the Soviet Union, Education Minister Zvulun Hammer said his impression was that events in the Persian Gulf have not affected Jewish immigration to Israel.

Speaking to our reporter Nava Kohen, Hammer said Jews are worried about the situation, but this does not deter aliyah. He was handed hundreds of applications from Jews for immigration to Israel. Minister Hammer attended a gathering of 10,000 Jews in Leningrad aimed at strengthening Jewish cultural activities in the city.

Neglect in Handling Ethiopian Immigration Denied

TA2008112690 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 20 Aug 90 p 2

[Report by Bill Hutman]

[Excerpts] Dozens of Ethiopian Jews, mostly children, are dying from malnutrition and disease in Addis Ababa every month because of a failure by the Israeli government and the Jewish Agency to adequately aid families waiting for permission to make aliyah, Adissu Massela, chairman of the Umbrella Organization of Ethiopian immigrant organizations, said yesterday.

Jewish Agency spokesman Gad Ben-Ari maintained that living and health conditions are bad in Addas, but not as bad as Massela described. He admitted, however, that some Jews had died of disease and malnutrition, particularly during the wave of migration from villages to Addas Ababa over the last three months. [passage omitted]

Ben-Ari termed "a vicious lie" Massela's charges that the Agency was intentionally holding up the reunification of Ethiopian families because Israel was already having difficulty absorbing Russian immigrants. In fact, he said, since the renewal of relations in November 1989, the number of Ethiopian Jews allowed to immigrate to Israel has gone up dramatically. [passage omitted]

Iraq's Tariq 'Aziz Arrives in Amman 21 Aug

JN2108115690 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1140 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Amman, 21 Aug (INA)—Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz, President Saddam Husayn's envoy to his brother, Jordan's king His Majesty King Husayn Ibn-Talal, arrived here today on a short visit.

Briefed by King on U.S. Visit

JN2108174490 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] His Majesty King Husayn received Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, at the Royal Hashemite Court this afternoon. 'Aziz briefed his majesty on the latest developments of the situation in Iraq. He also heard from His Majesty King Husayn on his majesty's recent visit to Washington within the framework of his majesty's continuous efforts to halt the escalation in the Gulf crisis. The meeting was attended by the prime minister, the chief of the Royal Court, his majesty the king's political adviser, and the Iraqi ambassador in Amman.

Holds News Conference

JN2208073590 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 22 Aug 90 p 18

[Text] Tariq 'Aziz, Iraqi deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has said His Majesty King Husayn is a wise leader with long political experience that enables him to see things as they really are and this is what has prompted his majesty to exert intensive efforts to resolve the Gulf crisis within the Arab context and away from foreign interference.

This came in the news conference given by Tariq 'Aziz in Amman yesterday and which was attended by over 300 Arab and foreign journalists.

'Aziz expressed his appreciation for His Majesty King Husayn's position on the crisis and visit to the United States during which he gave his best advice to the U.S. Administration. He said his majesty the king did not carry any messages from Iraq to the U.S. Administration. He only presented an explanation of the crisis from his own wise viewpoint.

'Aziz added that Jordan has suffered and is still suffering from aggression, injustice, distortion, and falsification which are imposed on it by the world while it is defending the longest frontline with the Zionist enemy.

'Aziz said that he came to Amman with a message for His Majesty King Husayn from his brother President Saddam Husayn dealing with the latest developments of the Gulf crisis and the United States' escalation of its hostile stands against Iraq.

'Aziz expressed his appreciation to the Jordanian people and government for Jordan's stand on the crisis, saying: It is not strange to see our brothers in this struggling [mujahid] country understanding the truth and defending it courageously.

He said: Jordan is known for its struggle stands and clear pan-Arab vision of events.

'Aziz praised the Arab press in Jordan and expressed his high appreciation for its clear stand on the recent events.

Regarding the Jordanian religious scholars' [fuqaha'] effort in condemning the American invasion of the holy lands, 'Aziz said: The Jordanian people and government see the facts which are not seen by those who hold false opinions.

'Aziz said: Iraq has presented several peace initiatives to end the crisis, however no one has responded to them because of U.S. domination of the UN Security Council, which passed the blockade resolution against Iraq. The United States was backed by several Western countries motivated by their own interests in the region. I consider that an aggression on Iraq which will be met with force by the Arab people in Iraq. We will not permit aggression. We will fight. It will not be a picnic for the Americans such as the invasion of Grenada and Panama. It will be a bloody war and the United States will lose. Nevertheless, Iraq is prepared for a an unconditional dialogue before sitting at the negotiations table.

Regarding the Western nationals hosted by Iraq, 'Aziz replied: First, I am sorry U.S. President George Bush has used the wrong word by calling these people hostages.

Tariq 'Aziz added: The United States has dispatched its forces to the region. He wondered whether these forces have come to defend Saudi Arabia against an Iraqi attack. He added: This is not true because we have given more than the necessary guarantees that we will not attack Saudi Arabia. However, they did not accept these guarantees and came to ward off an alleged threat. The truth is that they have come to control the oil sources. The Americans and the Westerners admitted this themselves when they said: We went there to put our feet on the oil sources.

Tariq 'Aziz affirmed that the crisis in the Gulf is an Arab and not a U.S. affair. We do not accept that the U.S. Administration decides the fate of the region. There is an Arab will that is capable of determining our fate and future. The Arab people, the Arab nation, and the Arab will are the ones to determine the future of this region.

Tariq 'Aziz accused the United States with George Bush at its head of escalating the situation and resorting to hostile language against Iraq. He affirmed that Iraq is ready for peace if the Americans so wish. He added: We did not go to U.S. territory to fight them. They came to our land. We will offer martyrs in defense of our land if the United States wishes to escalate the situation and wage war. But if it wants to hold talks, then it must not set preconditions. U.S. President Ronald Reagan used to describe the Soviet

Union as the evil empire. However, he held negotiations with it without setting preconditions.

On foreign nationals in Iraq, Tariq 'Aziz said: The nationals of any country which has not committed an aggression against Iraq will be given the necessary facilities.

On Iraqi-French relations Tariq 'Aziz said: We are not responsible for the deterioration of these relations. We had good relations with France during the eighties and during the Iraq-Iran war. However, the French Government began to change its stand in February, although we did all that we could possibly do. In spite of this, the French Government dispatched its forces to the side of the U.S. forces, and agreed to U.S. demands.

Tariq 'Aziz called on the Europeans to adopt an independent stand from the United States for the sake of the relations which exist with the Arab world. He said: I enjoy good and friendly relations with many European officials like Genscher, Roland Dumas, and Douglas Hurd, and they know of our genuine desire to establish good relationships that are based on mutual respect.

He added: I met Bush and Baker last year. They know that we want to remain free, that we do not want to be treated as slaves in this region, and that we want to exploit our resources to build schools for our children and hospitals and to carry out development and construction. The Arab people will not agree to our funds being wasted in casinos.

Addressing the Westerners, 'Aziz said: Why do you not deal with honest nationalists, and why have you not adopted a neutral position on this crisis? Before talking, you should see the situation through our eyes and not through the eyes of others.

I met with the troika delegation in Baghdad and I told the delegation that we are eager to establish good relations with the EC. I also voiced our desire to continue our relations with it on the basis of mutual respect.

He said that the Arab nation does not want to use its wealth in illegitimate areas but wants to deal honorably with the world.

Aziz said: We in Iraq do not say we want to use our oil to pressure others and we want to deal with others on the basis of mutual respect and in accordance with humanitarian and international relations, but the Western rulers do not want such relations.

He added that the Westerners want to keep the current conditions and to keep the Arab nation hungry, weak, and unstable.

Regarding the international law, which the United States alleges it is eager to apply, Tariq 'Aziz said: We accept the application of international law to all issues and not in accordance with Bush's mood. Shamir is killing Palestinian children in the occupied territories, demolishing houses, and occupying Arab territories. Why did Bush not move all this military force to apply international law to Israel? How can the law be used to commit aggression against Iraq? Who should apply that law? Is it the United States or Britain? Are they interested in international law? Double standards should not be used in these matters.

Regarding the siege the United States is imposing on Iraq, 'Aziz said: The boycott will affect Iraq but Iraq affirmed throughout its history, which goes back thousands of years, that it has been able to achieve self-sufficiency. He added: The country that boycotts Iraq will also lose. For example, we enjoyed good relations with Brazil. He then addressed foreign journalists: Remember that and preserve friendly relations with the Arab world.

Regarding the Iraqi peace initiative, 'Aziz said: So far, matters are proceeding well and the withdrawal might have been completed. We also started releasing the POW's from both sides, and there will be contacts and we hope we will reach a lasting peace.

Egyptians Riot To Protest Delay at Al-'Aqabah

NC2108174790 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] There was serious rioting today among the Egyptians returning from Iraq and making their way to the Jordanian Red Sea port of al-'Aqabah. According to reports, a crowd of about 2,000 Egyptians closed a highway and threw stones at passing trucks. They were protesting against a two-day delay at a checkpoint on the road to al-'Aqabah. The police dispersed the demonstrators. Jordanian officials have been trying to organize the flow of returnees in order to prevent crowding at the port. Reporters say that al- 'Aqabah port does not have the capacity to handle the more than 50 ferries leaving for Egypt every day.

Highly placed Israeli sources had earlier reported that the Israeli Government had accepted an Egyptian request to permit Egyptian returnees to pass through Israel. A spokesman for the Egyptian Embassy in Tel Aviv denied that Egypt had made such a request.

Spokesman on Delay

JN22081114'0 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 2000 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] A responsible source at the Interior Ministry has made the following statement to the JORDANIAN NEWS AGENCY: Out of our pan-Arab and humanitarian duty, the Jordanian Government is providing all the necessary facilities to receive people returning from Kuwait and Iraq and to coordinate with the concerned embassies to facilitate these people's travel to their countries.

The Interior Ministry has noticed that the Egyptian brothers coming into Jordan every day outnumber those leaving. The number of returnees now stands at more than 40,000, which has forced the Interior Ministry to establish emergency

checkpoints in al-Ruwayshid, al-Azraq, Ma'an, al-Quwayrah, and al-'Aqabah to receive the Egyptian brothers and provide them the necessary facilities.

Despite continued contacts with the Egyptian authorities to secure the necessary transportation means from al-'Aqabah to Egyptian territories, transportation has remained at the same level. This has led to crowding under difficult circumstances that goes far beyond our capacity to handle and the resultant protest and restlessness.

The Interior Ministry continues to contact the competent authorities in Egypt to provide sufficient maritime and air transportation means to transport the Egyptian brothers and to enable the Jordanian organs to carry out their duties in the best possible way.

More Than 5,000 Foreigners Arrive From Kuwait

NC2108145590 Paris AFP in English 1441 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Amman, Aug 21 (AFP)—More than five thousand foreigners, including 351 Soviet citizens fleeing Kuwait, arrived in Jordan on Tuesday afternoon, concurring sources said.

The steady stream of foreign nationals included 195 Egyptians, as well as Indians, Poles, Romanians and Arabs of various nationalities whose numbers could not be ascertained, security sources at the border post of al-Ruwayshid said.

A Soviet diplomat said the 351 Soviet expatriates had come from Kuwait, where they had worked for construction firms and in petro-chemical factories. They were immediately put on an Aeroflot plane for Moscow.

The Soviet group was the third to leave Kuwait in the aftermath of Iraq's August 2 invasion of the emirate and a fourth group comprising 180 people was expected to arrive between Friday and Monday, the diplomat said.

With the arrival of the fourth group, Moscow will have completed the evacuation through Jordan of its 882 nationals in Kuwait and will then concentrate on getting some 8,000 of its citizens out of Iraq.

The diplomat also said that Moscow was considering "partial evacuation" of its citizens from Iraq, affecting some 500-1,000 people. The Soviet community in Iraq numbers nearly 8,000.

Three hundred Poles arrived here safely from Iraq on Tuesday and were to fly to Warsaw later in the day, said Marian Dabrowski, the Polish charge d'affaires in Jordan.

Romanian diplomats meanwhile said 23 of their compatriots arrived in the Jordanian capital and had been well-treated by both Iraqi and Jordanian authorities.

Sixty Brazilians made their way to Jordan from Iraq. The group included about 20 people from Kuwait and relatives of diplomats at the Brazilian embassy, Brazilian embassy sources here said.

An Indian diplomat said about 100 Indians managed to reach Jordan but gave no details.

An official at the al-Ruwayshid border post 270 kilometers (167 miles) east of here said 7,783 people had crossed the border from Iraq into Jordan since the August 2 invasion, adding that the crossing was staffed all night to cope with the influx of foreigners.

But Iraq is not allowing nationals from countries that have sent troops to the Gulf to leave either Iraq or Kuwait, namely Americans, Britons, Australians and most French citizens.

Iraqi President Saddam Husayn announced Sunday that foreign nationals from Austria, Sweden, Switzerland, Finland and Portugal would be allowed to leave Iraq because their governments "did not send troops or equipment to the region."

The U.S. government advised its citizens on Monday against unnecessary travel to Jordan and suggested that those already in that country, including non-essential diplomatic personnel, should leave.

Editorial Says 'Every Westerner a Target'

JN2208093590 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 22 Aug 90 pp 1, 20

[Editorial: "The Iraq of Love and Peace Versus the Alliance of Resentment and Hatred"]

[Text] Before the Americans and their allies began their war against the Arab nation and its steadfast and great Iraq, successive defeats befell this American-Western-Israeli alliance and those who stood by that alliance in its trench. The first of these defeats is the collapse of the many U.S. allegations about international charters, international legitimacy, the rights of peoples, nations, and individuals. The hostile alliance took on the form of a pirate from the first moment, and revealed how much resentment and hatred it harbors toward every Arab and Muslim in our homeland and region.

Therefore, our Arab and Islamic nation's confrontation of the hostile intentions will conflict with U.S., British, French, and even some Arab calculations. The war is not a war of Iraq, the Iraqis, or Saddam alone, but a war of millions of Arabs and Muslims. Western resentment against and scorn for them, as well as this insistence on turning us into slaves, have left no room for us not to wage a fierce, continuous war against that racist alliance, not to make every Western property and every Westerner a target that should be struck at in defense of religion, nationalism and dignity, and not to strike at these escalating sentiments of resentment and disdain, which still show the Arab and the Muslim as backward, ignorant, and having a long tail hidden in his clothes.

These dark ages have ended and a phase of pan-Arab awakening—represented by Iraq, its people, and its leadership, and by the millions of Arabs and Muslims—

has begun. We actually fear that colonialists whose time is past imagine that they can determine the place, timing, and limits of the war. Its place will be this Arab homeland from the ocean to the Gulf, and even outside it, as well as any place where there is a whip to flog the Arab, a slave whose head, hands, or feet should not come out of the chains.

Iraq extends its hand to peace, but no colonialist does the same; Iraq calls for love, but grudges and hatred increase against it; and Iraq urges everyone to protect his children, as well as those of its guests and the thousands of mercenaries who came to Iraq, but no sane man welcomes peace, responds to love, and shows a minimun degree of love for the children.

This is what we fear. The war will not be a lightning one, as Bush imagines and as he is tempted by the Zionists, the White House advisers, and the rancorous Jews of the Defense Department to believe. We also know that many heads of state will fall before the guns are silenced. He who sends his people to fight in defense of another homeland for money will deprive his country of glory and will turn it into a mercenary.

Mercenaries fight for money and not for values or principles. Hence, the defeat of the American-Zionist-Western alliance has begun. We will not mention other sides, because they are trivial.

Jordanian, Algerian Parliaments Support Iraq

JN2208061190 Amman Jordan Television Network in English 1900 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] The Jordanian and Algerian parliaments have declared that foreign military intervention in the Arabian Peninsula would be an unprecedented insult to the most sacred shrines cherished by Arabs and Muslims. It would also be an attempt to enable the Zionists achieve their dream of a greater Israel. The declaration was contained in a joint statement issued today following talks between the Jordanian parliament and a delegation of the Algerian National Assembly.

The two sides declared full support for the Iraqi people, saying that aggression on Iraq is tantamount to aggression on the Arab and Islamic nations. The two sides appealed to the Arab and Muslim peoples to support Iraq with all their potentials so that the Iraqis could overcome attempts to starve them. The two sides agreed to continue cooperation and coordination with each other and with Arab and world parliaments to advance the cause declared in their joint statement.

Paper Says U.S. Rejects Negotiation

JN2208101090 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 22 Aug 90 pp 1, 17

[Editorial: "Dialogue or Fire?"]

[Text] It seems the United States has decided to close every door leading to negotiation and a peaceful resolution of the Gulf crisis. This is obvious from its immediate rejection of every Iraqi peace initiative and every Arab appeal calling for dialogue and a suitable diplomatic resolution of the crisis satisfactory to all parties.

No doubt this U.S. rejection conceals intentions, which are now almost declared, to reoccupy the Arab Gulf area and control its oil sources and potential reserves, an objective which the United States wants to achieve through escalation and a false a crisis atmophere. Perhaps the mounting U.S. military buildup in the Gulf and the eastern parts of the Arabian Peninsula and the war threats and statements attending this buildup is best proof of the resurrection of the colonial and crusader mentality so that this time Arab oil, and not the holy land, will be the preferred target of the military concentrations and fleets coming from overseas.

It is obvious that closing the negotiating door and adopting a rejectionist stand toward every Iraqi inclination toward dialogue shows a tendency toward the war option. Perhaps the United States knows, even more than we do, that this option will be costly and most dangerous to everyone, including the vast U.S. interests in this part of the world.

Therefore, Washington—which is pushing matters willy-nilly toward a horrible collision—must know that if war starts and the blood begins to flow heavily over the blazing desert sands, an earthquake would hit this part of the world, leaving nothing untouched in the capitals, streets, and military barracks. Previous calculations would also fail and the United States would wake up to a new Arab world created by the action of Arab will, which will triumph over all challenges.

Reportage on Constitutional Amendment Debate

Cabinet Holds Emergency Session

NC2008205090 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic GMT 1845 20 Aug 90

[Text] The cabinet ended an emergency session at approximately 2000 tonight. After the session, Information and Justice Minister Edmond Rizq made the following statement: On the eve of the Chamber of Deputies session to consider the constitutional amendments bill, it was natural that the cabinet should hold an emergency session, under the chairmanship of President Ilyas al-Hirawi and in the presence of Prime Minister al-Huss and the ministers, to consider providing all appropriate conditions for convening the parliamentary session and enabling the government to carry out all its responsibilities vis-a-vis this achievement to which the country attaches great importance because of the effective mechanism it provides to consolidate security and peace in Lebanon.

Ministers George Sa'adah, Ilyas al-Khazin, Michel Sasin, Nazih al-Bizri, 'Ali al-Khalil, Albert Mansur, Edmond Rizq, Muhsin Dallul, and Souren Khanamarian attended the session, while Ministers Nabih Birri, Walid Junblatt, and 'Umar Karami were absent.

Chamber Studies Bill

NC2108122090 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Telephone report by national news agency correspondent Wasif 'Awadah from the Chamber of Deputies in al-Najmah Square in Beirut—live]

[Excerpts] The Chamber of Deputies is still studying the bill on constitutional reforms in a session chaired by Speaker Husayn al-Husayni and attended by 51 deputies as well as by Prime Minister Dr. Salim al-Huss and the ministers. [passage omitted]

The last speaker in today's session was Prime Minister Dr. Salim al-Huss who said: This is a great achievement and we congratulate the deputies on this session, which is the fruit of efforts in which the government has participated with all its capabilities. We record this historical occasion as a new starting point for cooperation between the legislative and executive authorities in order to implement the accord document, end the Lebanese people's tragedy, and liberate the south from the treacherous Israeli occupation. [passage omitted]

Speaker al-Husayni opened the session at 1130 today by welcoming former Prime Minister Sa'ib Salam. [passage omitted]

Parliament Approves Amendments

NC2108173490 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1615 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] The Chamber of Deputies was today the scene of discussions on constitutional amendments in a marathon session which began at 1130 and ended a short time ago with the approval of the amendments. Immediately after the session, Chamber of Deputies Speaker Husayn al-Husayni, Prime Minister Salim al-Huss, and the members of the Chamber of Deputies office left for President Ilyas al-Hirawi's office to brief him on the parliamentary meeting and the approval of the amendments after they had been discussed and voted on.

Our correspondent George Shahin sent us this dispatch from al- Najmah Square a short time ago.

[Begin recording] At 1845 this evening, after seven and a half hours of discussions in a plenary parliamentary session, the Chamber of Deputies approved the draft constitutional law by a constitutional majority of 48 deputies. The aim of the law is to introduce some amendments to the Lebanese Constitution in implementation of the national accord document which was referred to the Chamber of Deputies on 30 April this year.

Speaker al-Husayni announced after the conclusion of the session that the draft law was ratified [suddiqa] by a constitutional majority. He asked the members of the Chamber of Deputies office to accompany him on a visit to President al-Hirawi, together with Prime Minister Dr. al-Huss, in order to inform him of the Chamber of Deputies' decision.

Speaker al-Husayni had earlier put the first article to a vote. Deputy Najah Wakim made a slight objection. Deputy Butrus Harb objected to putting the articles to a vote before holding a second reading of the new text and the amendments introduced in the 30 clauses to be amended. Speaker al-Husayni read the text and the proposed amendments before once again putting the matter to a roll call vote. None of the 48 deputies present objected.

Thus al-Najmah Square has witnessed a new revision of the constitution, which was last amended in 1946. Limited constitutional amendments were also introduced in 1958 when President Fu'ad Shihab was in office. This is the Voice of Lebanon correspondent speaking to you from al-Najmah Square. Now we go back to Studio One. [end recording]

Al-Hirawi Hails Ratification

NC2108194990 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Following the ratification of the constitutional amendments today, President of the Republic Ilyas al-Hirawi said this was a historic occasion and a historic achievement and provided clear evidence that the Chamber of Deputies, which represents the people, carried out all its duties without any division.

This constitutional achievement came in the wake of the national accord document to demonstrate to us that the Chamber of Deputies performed its duties in the best possible manner, the president said.

President al-Hirawi added: [Word indistinct] this historic accomplishment tells the world that Lebanon is the country of freedom and civilization. The people which make up this state, in all their sections, are one people.

Al-Hirawi added: Today we accomplished a great thing of which we can be proud. We will confront all those who revolted against the authorities, against this people, and against the Lebanese state.

President al-Hirawi hoped the state of rebellion which prevails in the Lebanese Army would end.

Amendments Detailed; Leaders Comment

NC2108203990 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1845 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Chamber of Deputies Speaker Husayn al-Husayni and Prime Minister Salim al-Huss visited President Ilyas al-Hirawi this evening. They presented him with the constitutional amendments bill which was ratified at today's parliamentary session. The president, the speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, and the prime minister delivered speeches in which they congratulated the Lebanese people on the ratification of the bill.

Prime Minister al-Huss described what happened today as a patriotic action which will be recorded in history as the prelude to a new phase that he hopes will be one of amity, agreement, and unity. He added: This is a historic day. We hope it will be the starting point for cooperation among the various state powers in a manner that will enable this country to emerge from its ordeal and embark on construction and development. Referring to another issue, the prime minister said that the rebellion cannot last long.

Speaker al-Husayni praised the deputies and said they always put their homeland's interest before their own, even if this exposes them to dangers. He said he believes that the Lebanese people are on the threshold of a new era that focuses on the separation, balance, and cooperation of powers. He stressed that the stage of cooperation among all parties must lead to the practical implementation of the measures now that they have been implemented constitutionally. He reiterated his statement that 1990 will be the year of solution. He said today's parliamentary session demonstrated that the government leaders are determined to pursue the salvation of Lebanon.

The Chamber of Deputies today approved the constitutional amendments bill, as provided for in the al-Ta'if document, by a majority of 48 votes. The vote followed discussions which lasted for about seven hours under the chairmanship of Speaker al-Husayni. There were some sharp debates among the deputies during the long session.

The following articles were ratified without amendment: 17, 18, 19, and 22. Article 24 was amended. Previously it read: Exceptionally, and for one time only, the national accord government will fill the new posts created under the election law and the vacant parliamentary seats. The article was amended to read: Exceptionally, and for one time only, the national accord government will, with a two-thirds majority, fill by appointment and simultaneously the parliamentary seats that are vacant on the date this law is published and the seats that are created under the election law equally between Christians and Muslims in accordance with the al-Ta'if agreement document. The election law will specify the details of implementing this article.

Articles 30, 33, and 44 were ratified without amendment. Article 49 was ratified with a slight amendment by adding the phrase "except on the government's instructions."

Articles 51, 52, 53, 54, 56, 55, 57, 58, 62, and 64 were ratified without amendment.

Article 65 was ratified with a slight amendment that does not affect the article's essential provisions.

Article 66 was ratified without amendment.

Article 69 was ratified with a slight amendment.

Articles 75, 71, 78, 77, 79, 80, 85, 86, and 95 were ratified without amendment.

Article 1 of the constitutional law was ratified with an amendment by a majority. Article 2 was ratified unanimously.

Article 3: This constitutional law will be published in the official gazette.

LF Source Comments

NC2208070190 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 22 Aug 90

[Text] A Lebanese Forces [LF] source has stated that the Lebanese Forces received Arab, regional, and international assurances and guarantees that approval of the constitutional amendments will not be separate from a political mechanism which aims, in the foreseeable future, to achieve a settlement in Lebanon. From this aspect, we have always maintained a firm, principled stand that the reforms are not our ambition and do not represent our views on an internal solution of the Lebanese crisis. However, when there are solutions, the views of all parties will be considered. What happened does not express the views of any one single party but of many parties. This is a settlement, and in a settlement all parties make concessions.

The source added: Our position is not based on the amendments that have been approved, but on the connection between these amendments and a certain mechanism that would move Lebanon from the whirlpool of armed conflict to the achievement of solutions that will restore democratic life. We have received guarantees and

assurances that this will take place soon. Therefore, we hope that what took place in the Chamber of Deputies is a first step on the 1,000-mile journey toward ending the abnormal situation in Lebanon and that peace will prevail. The situation cannot continue as it is amid alarming economic and financial deterioration, increasing migration, and the danger of Lebanon's disappearance as a homeland. We are now engaged in secondary matters and look for minor power and gains at the expense of a collapsing homeland. If this step is linked with wide-scale relaxation in the situation, it will definitely be positive. But if it stops at what has been accomplished, it will have no effect on the process for a solution and will be nothing in itself.

Regarding the negative effects which this step could have in view of the existence of parties that reject the al-Ta'if agreement, the source said: These parties are in a dilemma. I do not think that the solution to their dilemma lies in aggravating the security situation. The constitutional reforms step has been accomplished, and it should be considered with realism. We advise them to do so, and not be hasty, because they will bear the responsibility for any irresponsible action.

Meanwhile, General Michel 'Awn continued his campaign against the government and announced his rejection of the Chamber of Deputies' approval of the constitutional amendments. A source close to him maintained that the Chamber of Deputies' approval yesterday is considered null and void.

Syria's Al-Asad Congratulates Al-Hirawi

NC2208090990 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0845 GMT 22 Aug 90

[Text] President Ilyas al-Hirawi received congratulations from Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad on the new Lebanese Constitution. President al-Asad praised the deputies' efforts in endorsing the constitutional amendments, calling this a first step to restoring Lebanon's sovereignty, authority, and national reconciliation. The two presidents agreed during their telephone conversation to meet soon to discuss the internal conditions and the Arab situation in general.

President al-Hirawi, Speaker al-Husayni, and Prime Minister al-Huss received a similar call from Arab Envoy Lakhdar Ibrahimi.

Reportage on Al-Maradah Forces' 'Uprising'

Zgharta Road Cut, Positions Taken Over

NC2008142490 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1345 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] According to security information available to our radio, groups belonging to Battalion 3/400, which is loyal to Sulayman Franjiyah Jr. [former President Sulayman Franjiyah's grandson], last night took control of positions belonging to the al-Maradah group, which is loyal to Robert Franjiyah [former President Sulayman Franjiyah's son and Sulayman Franjiyah Jr.'s uncle], in al-Batrun and al-Kurah.

According to information, the situation in Zgharta has not been settled in favor of Sulayman Tony Franjiyah. The members of the Battalion 3/400 cut the Ihdin-Zgharta road and prevented citizens from crossing.

Ihdin Radio Suspended

NC2108065890 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] The al-Maradah forces under the command of Sulayman Tony Franjiyah have staged a bloodless uprising and suspended the Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon [Ihdin radio], pending the amendment of the radio's programs and policy.

According to press reports, the operation was carried out on Sunday night and completed at dawn yesterday, Monday. According to people who came from the area last night, the forces of Battalion 3/400 closed the approaches to Zgharta on Sunday night, amid a state of alert.

The forces then surrounded the positions held by al-Maradah forces, especially the command building in Zgharta where the office of al-Maradah Commander Robert Franjiyah is located, and the buildings housing Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon and the television. In the meantime, other groups surrounded al-Maradah positions in the towns of Sil'atah and al- Batrun. By 0800 on Monday, all these positions had fallen to the forces of Battalion 3/400 without any resistance or shooting.

VOM Reports

NC2108110390 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 0900 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] According to information received from the north, dramatic developments occurred in the areas of Zgharta, al-Batrun, and al-Kurah during Sunday night and Monday morning. Sulaym Tony Franjiyah has taken over all the establishments belonging to Robert Franjiyah, including the radio, television, al-Maradah command, the Sil'ata harbor in al-Batrun, the al-Turabi company, and the rest of the establishments. These developments took place without shooting. The radio has stopped broadcasting.

It has been said that the radio and television will resume broadcasting after their programs have been amended and that they will be under the supervision of a team that receives orders from Tony Sulayman Franjiyah.

Our correspondent in the north indicated that the Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon [Ihdin radio], until yesterday, was supportive of Michel 'Awn's stand, opposed to the Chamber of Deputies convening a session to approve constitutional reforms, and supportive of Iraq in the Gulf.

All Al-Maradah Centers Taken Over

NC2108165090 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 21 aug 90

[Excerpt] Battalion 3/400, which is under the command of Sulayman Tony Franjiyah, has taken control of all Robert Franjiyah's al-Maradah centers in the districts of Zgharta, al-Batrun, and al-Kurah. The battalion personnel have set up checkpoints and adopted stringent security measures on public roads, particularly at the entrances to Zgharta and Ihdin. [passage omitted]

Iqlim Al-Tuffah, Southern Suburb Clashes Continue

NC1808171390 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1545 GMT 18 Aug 90

[Text] Intermittent clashes involving the use of machine guns and rockets continue to rage between Amal and Hizballah gunmen along the various combat lines in Iqlim al-Tuffah.

Meanwhile, tension continues to prevail in the Southern Suburb areas of al-Ghubayrah, al-Shiyah, al-Musharrafiyah, Mar Mikha'il, and al-Hajjaj following the clashes which broke out between Amal and Hizballah gunmen there last night.

Israeli Planes Break Sound Barrier Over Beirut

NC1908111490 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1100 GMT 19 Aug 90

[Text] Israeli warplanes broke the sound barrier over Beirut and the suburbs at 1325 today.

Southern Towns Shelled; Israelis Ambush Amal

NC1908134990 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1130 GMT 19 Aug 90

[Text] Sources in the Amal Movement have reported that the townships of 'Anqun, Sarba, Humin al-Tahta, Humin al-Fawqa, 'Arab Salim, Habbush, and Kafr Hatta came under shellfire this morning, destroying two houses and wounding a woman.

The Amal Movement has stated that a clash took place between one of its resistance groups which was on its way to the border strip to carry out a mission there after it was ambushed by a joint Israeli-Lahd force on the outskirts of Rshaf township. The resistance fighters killed and wounded the men who laid the ambush during a 15-minute clash, according to the Amal Movement.

Amal-Hizballah Clash Reported in West Beirut

NC2008054290 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] The Syrian Arab forces are working to eliminate tension in the al-Tahwitah area in Burj al-Barajinah following the clashes that took place there at around 0500 today. The tension spread to al-Hajjaj area in al-Shiyah.

Amal Movement sources said that a Hizballah group attempted to advance toward the Amal command center in al-Tahwitah but was repulsed. Clashes involving all types of weapons then ensued.

Fighting Abates

NC2008074390 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0715 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Amal-Hizballah fighting in the Southern Suburb has abated. The fighting began at about 0530 this morning and became fiercer between 0630 and 0730. Rockets and machine guns were used in the clashes, and security sources reported that five were killed and 20 injured. REUTER said that seven were killed and 15 injured. Radio Monte Carlo cited what it called Beirut sources as saying that 10 were killed in the clashes and 15 injured.

Troops Prepare for Saudi Arabia Service

JN2108154190 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] A responsible Syrian source has stated the following: Syria has begun to dispatch the first batch of Syrian forces that will join other Arab forces in defending the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia if it is subjected to a foreign attack. In taking this measure, Syria is motivated by the following:

1. The decision is in line with the Arab resolution adopted by the recent emergency Arab summit, which stipulated that the Arab countries shall respond to the requests of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to send troops to help defend its territory.

2. The decision is motivated by Syria's desire to perform its duty of protecting the holy places.

3. Syria believes that the Arab Gulf should not be left to foreign forces. It is possible for Arab forces to replace foreign forces gradually and with the passage of time.

4. For these reasons and others, Syria believes that it is performing a pan-Arab act constituting a serious attempt to prevent the fragmentation of the Arab nation in a manner that cannot be corrected in the future.

Al-Asad, Lebanon's Al-Hirawi Hold Secret Summit

NC1808060090 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0445 GMT 18 Aug 90

[Text] AL-DIYAR cites sources very close to Damascus as saying that Lebanese President Ilyas al-Hirawi and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad held a lightning summit secretly on the night of 14 August in Damascus. President al-Hirawi then went to Zahlah where he attended the inauguration of the Greek catholic bishopric.

The sources said that the two presidents reviewed developments in the Gulf region and their effects on Lebanon. They added that the Syrian president reiterated Damascus' support for the Lebanese Government statement and for separating what is taking place in the Gulf from the situation in Lebanon despite the preoccupation of Damascus with the Gulf file.

The same sources also said that the meetings that John Kelly, assistant U.S. secretary of state for Middle East affairs, had with Syrian officials last week also touched on the Lebanese situation and developments. They said that the two sides' stands on Lebanon are getting closer and that Kelly stressed the U.S. desire to ensure the appropriate conditions and to open the way for imposing legitimate authority and helping it reunite the state organs.

Postponement of Ministers Meeting Requested

JN2108174090 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1610 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Damascus, 21 Aug (SANA)—The Arab League General Secretariat has informed the member states of the Arab League of Syria's request to postpone the Arab foreign ministers emergency meeting scheduled for 26 August until 30 August.

It has been learned that a number of Arab countries have concurred with the postponement of the meeting until the proposed date.

Al-Zu'bi Briefs Cabinet on Gulf Crisis

JN2108150490 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Excerpts] The cabinet held a meeting chaired by Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zu'bi at 1100 today. During the meeting the political situation was reviewed. Al-Zu'bi briefed the ministers on the meetings, contacts, and latest developments in the region as a result of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. [passage omitted]

The cabinet also reviewed the conditions of Syrians and Arabs residing or working in Kuwait. It decided to render all facilities to them in order to help them face the arduous circumstances in which they find themselves due to the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. [passage omitted]

'Dialogue Among Brothers' Recommended to Iraq

JN2108080890 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 21 Aug 90

[From the press review]

[Text] In a commentary in the "Behind the News" column under the headline "Speeding Up Iraqi Withdrawal Achieves the Nation's Interests," the newspaper TISHRIN says: Observers can note clearly that all the Arab states, including those that abstained from, expressed reservations on, or voted against the emergency Arab summit resolution have denounced the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, as have all world states, including their political trends and affiliations. In addition to this, all the resolutions that were issued by the Arab League, the Islamic Conference Organization, the Arab summit, or the UN Security Council have stressed that the Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwaiti territory must be achieved before anything else so that the situation will return to the way it was before the Iraqi invasion.

TISHRIN adds: There is a fact that must be recorded; namely, that the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait caused the unprecedented massive buildup of foreign fleets in the region. Therefore, tackling results necessitates tackling the causes that led to them clearly and frankly. This gives Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwaiti territory exceptional and extreme importance because it removes the justification that caused this huge presence of foreign forces in the region.

TISHRIN adds: Dialogue among brothers and within the one Arab family constitutes the best framework for settling any differences, no matter how difficult they may be, and regardless of its negative repercussions on the situation.

The paper says: From this premise, our stand has been clear since the eruption of the Iraqi-Kuwaiti conflict, when we called for settling it through dialogue and within the one Arab family, and stressed the seriousness of resorting to force to settle Arab differences.

Concluding, TISHRIN says: If we call now for the immediate Iraqi withdrawal in implementation of Arab and international resolutions, then this is because this withdrawal basically benefits the Iraqi people, without ignoring the Kuwaiti people's interests. This withdrawal also serves the national and pan-Arab interests at this serious stage in our nation's history.

Algerian Officials Confer With Assembly Speaker

JN2108153190 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2015 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Damascus—People's Assembly Speaker 'Abd-al-Qadir Qaddurah received this evening (?Sa'id Ayat Masudan), vice president of the Algerian People's National Assembly, and his delegation.

During the meeting, the People's Assembly speaker spoke about the strong ties, including parliamentary ties, between the two fraternal countries Syria and Algeria, and the importance of enhancing and developing them continuously to serve bilateral and pan-Arab issues.

Qaddurah also spoke on the most important current issues and the positions on them, particularly recent Arab developments after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and the major dangers posing threats to the Arabs that it has caused. This invasion has fragmented Arab solidarity and deflected attention from crucial Arab issues, particularly the Palestine question and the Arab-Zionist conflict, Qaddurah said.

Qaddurah referred to the enormous efforts made by Syria under His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad since the beginning of the invasion to resolve this problem within an Arab context and to spare Iraq foreign interference in its Arab affairs, and to direct its strength and capabilities to face the major enemy, Israel and its allies, in order to advance the major cause, the Palestine question, to secure the return of the Palestinian people to their homeland and to help them attain their rights to self-determination and establish their state on their national soil.

(Masudan) then spoke. He expressed his and his delegation's pleasure to be visiting Syria to acquire firsthand knowledge of its positions on current events and to coordinate parliamentary efforts to draw up a unified Arab stance that would serve Arab causes, unity, and avert danger.

Masudan and his delegation paid tribute to Syria's principled positions and to Syria's major role under His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad in regional issues. He also praised its sacrifices in defending the Arabs, their progress, and liberation.

Meet With Khaddam

JN2108191390 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Vice President 'Abd-al-Halim Khaddam received (Sa'id Ayat Masudan), vice president of the Algerian People's National Assembly, and his delegation at 1230 today. Shakir Is'ayyid, chairman of the People's Assembly Arab and Foreign Affairs Committee, and the Algerian charge d'affaires in Damascus attended the meeting.

The situation in the region, especially the tense situation in the Gulf, the dangers resulting from the continuing Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, and the importance of securing the Iraqi troops' withdrawal from Kuwait and restoring the legitimate government as a first step toward dealing with this tense situation, were discussed during the meeting.

Al-Shar' Conveys Message to Mubarak, Returns

JN2108185790 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' returned to Damascus this afternoon following a short visit to Alexandria, during which he conveyed a message from President Hafiz al-Asad to Egyptian President Husni Mubarak on the Arab situation in general and the current developments in the Gulf region. The meeting was attended by Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Dr. 'Isa Darwish, Syrian ambassador to Egypt.

Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' also met with Kuwaiti Heir Apparent Shaykh Sa'ad al-'Abdallah al-Sabah, who briefed the foreign minister on the outcome of his tour in the region.

Al-Shar' was seen off at Alexandria airport by Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and senior officials in the Egyptian Foreign Ministry.

Afghanistan

Prime Minister Meets Ethnic Group Elders

LD2208085190 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0509 GMT 22 Aug 90

[Text] Kabul, Aug. 21, (BAKHTAR)—Fazl Haq Khaliqyar, prime minister of the Republic of Afghanistan, received today the elders and representatives of Pashai and Nooristan nationalities and exchanged views with them, reports the Press Office of Prime Ministry.

Several representatives of Nooristan and Pashai [word indistinct] thanked the nationalities on behalf of their [words indistinct] prime minister for receiving them and wishing [words indistinct] his cabinet members. They also pledged to make every contribution towards the realisation of the policy of national reconciliation and implementation of the government's policy line.

Addressing the meeting, Prime Minister Fazl Haq Khaliqyar praised the Pashai and Nooristani people for their interest in the country's reconstruction and added that after the announcement of the policy of national reconciliation under the leadership of Preisent Najibullah the grounds have been provided for ensuring peaceful life and one of the outstanding achievements of the policy of national reconciliation is the formation and composition of the present government. At the end of the meeting, Prime Minister Fazl Haq Khaliqyar gave necessary instructions to the responsible organs about the people's need to be taken care of.

Defense Deputy Holds News Conference 20 Aug

LD2208084390 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0420 GMT 22 Aug 90

[Text] Kabul Aug 21, BAKHTAR—A press conference was held on August 20, 1990 in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in which full General Nabi Azimi, first-deputy defense minister, informed home and foreign journalists on the military-political situation of Kabul city and gains achieved during the mopping up operations of the Kabul garrison carried out in the Paghman district, 20 km west of Kabul, recently, reported BAKHTAR.

Azimi stressed that during the operations 1500 ground-to-ground Sacker-30 and -20, rockets 1,690 missiless, 1,340 shells of recoilless field guns, 3,600 mortar shells, 22 armaments depots and thousands of various kinds of bullets were seized, and hundreds of extremists including ten wahibis were killed and hundreds others wounded. At the end of the conference Azimi responded to the questions raised by the journalists in this connection.

Wakil Remarks on Talks in Switzerland

LD2108222290 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Excerpts] 'Abdul Wakil, minister of foreign affairs, returned to the homeland this morning. He had been to Switzerland at the head of an Afghan delegation at the invitation of His Excellency Rene Felbert, chief of the department of foreign affairs. [passage omitted]

The minister of foreign affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan, replying a question by the BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY on his arrival, said: The meeting between the delegations of the Republic of Afghanistan and the Swiss Confederation, under the chairmanship of the two countries' foreign ministers, was held in an atmosphere of mutual understanding between the two sides. During the visit talks were conducted on the bilateral relations between the Republic of Afghanistan and the Swiss Confederation in political, cultural, economic, and trade fields. Due decisions were made on further developing bilateral relations.

The Swiss leadership expressed full support for resolving problems inside Afghanistan and around it, and for presistent efforts of the leadership of Republic of Afghanistan toward this goal. The leadership promised any feasible help in this respect. Leaders of Switzerland expressing their full readiness for giving various types of assistance to Afghanistan through the UN program, Salam, set up to help the repatriation of the refugees, noted that the Swiss Confederation attached much importance in the framework of its foreign aid to developing countries, including Afghanistan. The leaders of the country decided to take under earnest consideration the restart of the country's aid to the development projects of the Republic of Afghanistan.

The minister of foreign affairs also said: Klaus Jacobi, Swiss secretary of state in the department of foreign affairs, will visit in a propitious time, at the official invitation of the ministry of foreign affairs.

Extremists' Rockets Hit Kabul, Wound Civilians

LD2208082690 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0455 GMT 22 Aug 90

[Text] Kabul, Aug. 21, BAKHTAR—As a result of the extremists ground-to-ground rocket attacks on Kabul, two civilians were wounded [word indistinct]. A source of the Kabul garrison told to a BAKTAR military correspondent today that the enemies fired a number of rockets on residential quarters of Kabul City out of which two rockets hit the 2nd and [word indistinct] precincts of the city.

The source added that contingents and detachments of the Kabul garrison in order to prevent extremist rocket attacks on Kabul City conducted mopping up operations in the surroundings of the capital during the day. Twenty one extremists were killed and [word indistinct] others wounded and eighty Sacker-30 [word indistinct] rockets were destroyed, during the operation.

Bangladesh

Foreign Office To Maintain Embassy in Kuwait

BK2108165390 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] President Ershad has summoned the session of Jatiya Sangsad [Parliament] at 1000 on Saturday next. An official announcement said in Dhaka today the session has been called to discuss the Middle East situation.

A Foreign Office spokesman said in Dhaka today Bangladesh has no intention whatsoever to shut down its embassy in Kuwait as demanded by Iraq. The government's reiteration of the issue was made as Iraq gave the deadline of August 24th for the closure of all foreign diplomatic missions in Kuwait. The spokesman said the Iraqi announcement to close down the embassies in Kuwait after the deadline has no legal authority and amounts to violation of all diplomatic norms and international behavior.

The Foreign Office announcement came after all relevant issues concerning the gulf crisis came up for discussion in Dhaka today when the visiting Kuwaiti oil minister and special envoy of the amir held talks with Foreign Minister Anisul Islam Mahmud. The Kuwaiti minister, Mr. Rashid al-'Amiri, soon after his arrival in Dhaka called on the foreign minister and the energy minister. On his arrival, he said his country is thankful to Bangladesh for the support given to them during the current crisis in the gulf. He is carrying a message from the amir of Kuwait for President Ershad. Dr. al-'Amiri came to Dhaka from Pakistan and will also visit Malaysia, Indonesia, and India.

Official Cites Iraqi Recruitment of Volunteers

BK2108170590 Hong Kong AFP in English 1611 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Excerpt] Dhaka, Aug 21 (AFP)—The alleged recruitment of Bangladeshi volunteers by the Iraqi Embassy here to fight for Baghdad is not a legitimate function of a foreign mission, a senior official said here Tuesday. "We do not consider it (recruitment) a legitimate function of a foreign mission and it is outside normal diplomatic practice," Foreign Secretary Abul Ahsan told a crowded press conference.

Police baton-charged some 1,000 Bangladeshi nationals who thronged the Iraqi Embassy in Dhaka's Gulshan diplomatic enclave Tuesday to enlist as "soldiers of President Saddam Husayn," causing widespread panic in the area. People had been lining up since early morning to fill in a form reportedly issued by the Iraqi Embassy which asks specifically whether the applicant has had past military experience, sources said.

Police said there were no arrests, but security was tightened in the area. Many would-be volunteers still roamed around the embassy despite repeated requests from the police to go home. One said: "I am applying as I was told I will not need a passport or money to go to Iraq and I oppose presence of American forces on Arab land."

Mr. Ahsan said the Iraqi Embassy has not sought permission to recruit volunteers from Bangladesh, but Dhaka was trying to deal with the situation. "It is a delicate matter, we do not agree with this (recruitment) and individual recruits are considered mercenaries," he added.

In reply to a question, he said no steps have so far been taken to stop the alleged recruitment as it could obstruct normal activities of the embassy, which has made it known that it required no police protection. Asked whether he had held talks with the Iraqi ambassador who was requested to see him Tuesday, the foreign secretary said "he was unavailable."

Pressed whether that meant the envoy was avoiding the meeting, he said he could not be forced to come and that other Iraqi diplomats were maintaining regular contacts. A Foreign Office source, however said the envoy was in fact avoiding Bangladeshi officials. [passage omitted]

India

Gujral To Return to Delhi With Indians 21 Aug

BK2108100890 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr. I.K. Gujral, is returning to New Delhi today from Baghdad with a number of Indians stranded in Kuwait and Iraq. Mr. Gujral, who was earlier in Kuwait, returned to Baghdad today. During his stay in Kuwait, the minister visited the Indian Embassy there and spoke to the representatives of Indian nationals. Mr. Gujral also personally supervised the arrangements being made for the evacuation of Indians who want to return home. He assured the Indian community of all possible assistance to ensure their safety and security. Mr. Gujral instructed the Indian officials in Kuwait to provide all help to the stranded Indians. As reported earlier, Iraq has agreed to the Indian request to allow the Indian nationals to leave Kuwait and Iraq via Jordan. About 15,000 Indians have left Baghdad for the Jordanian border.

Meanwhile, a 14-member Air India crew stranded in Kuwait since the Iraqi occupation arrived in Bombay from Amman this morning. The crew members were held up in Kuwait following the closure of its borders. The Air India flight also brought 303 stranded Indian nationals from the Jordanian capital.

Extends Baghdad Stay

BK2208053890 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0435 GMT 22 Aug 90

[Text] The external affairs minister, Mr. I.K. Gujral, had extended his stay in Baghdad to finalize arrangements for the evacuation of Indian nationals from Kuwait and Iraq. He is personally overseeing all arrangements for the

welfare and safety of the Indian community in these two countries also. He is to bring with him a number of stranded Indian nationals from Baghdad and Kuwait.

1,410 Nationals Repatriated; More To Follow

BK2108171090 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] About 1,410 Indian nationals in Kuwait have been repatriated from the Jordanian capital of Amman after they reached there by road. The Indian Embassy in Amman is handling the operation in cooperation with Air India. So far, four special flights have been arranged by Air India to fly the stranded Indian nationals home. Another 200 Indian nationals are to be repatriated tomorrow. A number of Indians have also reached the Saudi Arabian capital Riyadh from Iraq and Kuwait. About 800 Indians have so far registered their names at the Indian Embassy in Riyadh. Of them, 548 have been repatriated. In all, over 1,200 Indian nationals have crossed over by road from Kuwait into Saudi Arabia.

More Return; Parliament Concerned

BK2208101490 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 22 Aug 90

[Text] Another batch of 374 Indians stranded in Kuwait arrived in Bombay this morning by a special Air India flight from Amman. Air India has so far operated six special flights from the Jordanian capital. According to an Air India spokesman, 2,153 Indians have been brought from Kuwait by special flights so far.

Several BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] and Congress-I members in the Lok Sabha today expressed concern over the plight of Indians in Kuwait and Iraq and accused the government of not taking prompt action to bring back the dispatched persons. Raising the issue during the zero hour, Mr. Harin Pathak, BJP, demanded that the government should immediately make a statement on the action plan [to evacuate Indians] and about the situation in Kuwait. The Congress-I members alleged that Indian Embassy officials are not helping the distressed Indians. The parliamentary affairs minister, Mr. P. Upendra, while sharing the concern of the members said the government is treating the issue with utmost urgency and arrangements are being made to bring back all those who wish to leave Kuwait and Iraq. He said the Iraqi authorities have assured India of all assistance. He said the external affairs minister, Mr. Gujral, who is now in Baghdad, has already met the Iraqi leaders and Indians. Both Mr. Gujral and [Civil Aviation Minister] Mr. Arif Mohammad Khan are expected to return today.

The Tamil Nadu Government is in touch with the center for taking necessary steps to repatriate people from the [Tamil Nadu] state who are stranded in Kuwait, Iraq, and Saudi Arabia and to get relevant information about them for their relatives in Tamil Nadu. This assurance was given by the chief minister, Mr. M. Karunanidhi on the floor of the state assembly in Madras today. The members expressed grave concern over the the fate of thousands of Tamils employed in Gulf countries. Mr. Karunanidhi said three state police officers have been sent to Bombay to guide and help Tamils arriving from the Gulf.

Measures Announced To Reduce Gas Consumption

BK2208123790 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 22 Aug 90

[Text] Government has announced a series of measures to reduce the consumption of petrol in view of the Gulf crisis. Excise duty on motor cars have been increased by 10 percent with effect from today. Central government and public sector staff cars and vehicles will not be used on Sundays. The quota of petrol for the cars of ministers has been reduced by 20 percent, and making the announcement in the Lok Sabha today, the finance minister, Professor Madhu Dandavate, said the state governments are also being requested to adopt these rules. He made a strong plea to the general public, business, industrial, and other establishments to voluntarily stop using their cars for one day of the week. Professor Dandavate proposed that the excise duty on motor cars will now be 50 percent instead of existing 40 percent rate. The rate of depreciation will be reduced from the present 33.33 to 20 percent in respect of motor cars purchased after the 1st of April this year. Taxes will, however, be exempted from such depreciation.

Singh, Parliament Discuss Pakistan Border Clashes

BK2108162890 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Excerpts] The prime minister has said that our forces are fully prepared to effectively deal with any eventuality on the border and there is no cause for any undue concern. Making an identical statement in both the houses of parliament on yesterday's exchange of fire in the Kupwara sector of the line of actual control in Jammu and Kashmir, Mr. Vishwanath Pratap Singh said these are localized incidents. He said our efforts to achieve our long-term goal for improving relations with Pakistan will continue. The government is fully alert on all its borders.

Answering queries from members in the Rajya Sabha, the prime minister said there has been no casualty on the Indian side. The Pakistani side might have suffered some casualties, but their number is not known.

The prime minister made it clear that India does not have any aggressive designs and said we want peace. A well-graded response from our Armed Forces has sent a message to Islamabad that nobody can take India by surprise. [passage omitted]

Mr. Singh informed the members that the Pakistanis used mortars and our forces used equivalent arms. He said the firing is continuing, but is confined to the Machhal sub sector only.

Paying rich tributes to the Armed Forces who ensured that no part of our territory can be intruded by any one, the prime minister said it is the joint responsibility of the forces and the people to defend the borders. He said the whole nation is one in the matter of security and safety of the country.

Replying to a pointed query, the prime minister said our intelligence agencies are doing a good job at the borders. Referring to the recent secretary-level talks between India and Pakistan, Mr. V.P. Singh said New Delhi suggested some confidence-building measures and there has been some progress. He said we maintain our position firmly that diplomatic initiatives should not be given up in the larger and long-term interests of the country while a firm stand should be taken to deal with any border situation. He said if relevant atmosphere is created, the level of talks between the two countries can be raised.

Lok Sabha Approves Legislation for Kashmir, Jammu

BK2108165290 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] The Lok Sabha has approved the proclamation of president's rule in Jammu and Kashmir. It also adopted by a voice vote a bill conferring special powers on Armed Forces in the disturbed areas of the state. Winding up the two-day debate, the home minister, Mufti Muhammad Sayeed, ruled out any talks with those wielding guns in Kashmir and said that unity and integrity of the country will never be compromised. The minister rejected the charges of excesses against the security forces as a disinformation campaign, But said anyone found guilty will be taken to task. He regretted that some political parties had chosen not to say a word against terrorists who are killing innocent people while they malign the forces.

Mr. Sayeed especially congratulated the former governor, Mr. Jag Mohan, for fighting the terrorists with courage. Saying that Pakistan is engaged in a proxy war in the Kashmir Valley, the minister asserted that everything will be done to rebuff this and no intrusion will be allowed on the border. He assured members that the administration in the state is in full grip of the situation and the intelligence system is strong.

Regarding migrants from the state, the home minister said steps have been taken to provide them with alternate jobs and educational facilities. During the resume discussions, members called for a credible policy on Kashmir which will include political initiatives along with administrative measures.

Further on Border Clashes; Beg Urges Vigilance

BK2108153090 Hong Kong AFP in English 1521 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Addition to an item published in the 21 August Near East & South Asia DAILY REPORT, page 51, column one, subheaded "Five Said Killed in Shelling."]

[Text] Islamabad, Aug 21 (AFP)—(Indian defence sources later said 11 Indian troops had been killed and an unspecified number injured in Monday's Kupwara border clashes.

(The sources in Jammu, Indian Kashmir's winter capital, said that the Pakistani side had suffered at least 10 dead and "many more injured.")

In Karachi, Army chief General Mirza Aslam Beg Tuesday asked Pakistani troops to be ready for any future eventualities, according to a Defence Ministry statement.

"The prevailing security environment calls for total vigil," he said while addressing officers at the city's Malir Garrison.

General Beg, whose forces are on alert in Kashmir, has also agreed to contribute troops to the multinational force assembling in Saudi Arabia following the Iraqi invasion of neighbouring Kuwait.

The army chief asked his men to remain "in state of high preparedness to cope with the future eventualities," the statement said.

Kashmiri Militants Held; Sikhs Threatened

BK2108165690 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Security forces in the Kashmir Valley have apprehended two leading militants in raids on their hideout. They include Sheikh Mohammad Hassan, an activist of the outlawed People's League. In another development, leaflets by subversives have appeared in Tral, asking all Sikhs to leave the Kashmir Valley within 10 days.

President Calls For High Military Preparedness

BK1808090490 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 18 Aug 90

[Text] The president, Mr. R. Venkataraman, has called upon the armed forces to maintain a high standard of preparedness and motivation to meet any external or internal threat to the unity and integrity of the country. Presenting the colors to the Officers Training Academy at an impressive parade in Madras today in recognition of its commendable service in the last 27 years, Mr. Venkataraman said ours is a peace-loving country and we do not covet even one inch of the territory of others. At the same time we must ensure military strength to defend our territorial integrity.

Our Madras correspondent says the Officers Training Academy has trained over 14,000 officers who have been commissioned into the Indian army. One of the officers trained in the academy, Major Parmeshwaran, was awarded Param Veer Chakra [Highest Gallantry [Award], posthumously, for conspicuous bravery during the PKF [Peacekeeping Force] operations in Sri Lanka.

Youths To Build Fence on Indo-Pakistani Border

BK2208061890 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 22 Aug 90

[Text] The prime minister, Mr. V.P. Singh, has instructed the authorities to evolve a scheme for involving the youth in building a fence on the Indo-Pak border in Punjab. Official sources in New Delhi said the youth will undertake the work on voluntary basis and help in raising a fence on the 236 kms along the border in Punjab. The crash program is being taken up in addition to 120 km of fencing which had already been completed on the border. The fencing will help in checking infiltration from across the border besides controlling drug trafficking and smuggling.

Alleged Imposition of Hindi Language Protested

Said To Encourage Secessionists

BK2008164690 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Some opposition members from Tamil Nadu today protested in the Lok Sabha against the alleged imposition of Hindi by the center. Raising the issue during zero hour, they said pursuing of any anti-English line will only give rise to secessionist trends in the south. Two of the members were seen even tearing up some official communication which they said was written in Hindi.

Minister Clarifies Language Policy

BK2208032490 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] The parliamentary affairs minister, Mr. P. Upendra, categorically stated in the Lok Sabha today that the government will carry out Jawaharlal Nehru's assurances regarding the language policy and make all efforts to promote Indian languages. He said the National Front's policy on language is very clear and the government is strictly adhering to it as laid down in the manifesto. Mr. Upendra was replying to a persistent demand by several Congress-I members that the government should make clear its language policy in view of what they called attempts by some states to ban English.

Parties Say Tamil Nadu Source of LTTE Arms

BK2008101490 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 0912 GMT 20 Aug 90

["OANA/Pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, 20 Aug (LANKAPUVATH)—Democratic Progressive Front parties of India including the Congress [I] in a memorandum to India's President R. Venkataraman allege large scale smuggling of arms and prohibited drugs and inaction on the part of the Tamil Nadu government to thwart it. The memorandum published in Saturday's "HINDU" monitored by LANKAPUVATH alleges that one person at Coimbatore was arrested on a charge of manufacturing spare parts for AK-47 rifles for supply to the LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] but a case against him has not been proceeded with.

(A recent issue of India's "FRONTLINE" highlighted the location of an arms factory in Coimbatore).

The memorandum calls upon the central government to take steps to guard the coast and prevent anti-Indian activities by the Sri Lankan Tamils (terrorists) who have established a link with the ruling party (in Tamil Nadu). The smugglers were crossing the coastal borders with impunity and till this day no smugglers had been apprehended. Tamil Nadu was now being converted into a shopping centre for arms and ammunition, the memorandum states.

Punjab Akali Dal-Mann Faction President Resigns

BK2108170890 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] In Punjab, Mr. Simranjit Singh Mann has resigned from the presidency of the Akali Dal-Mann. The resignation follows the charges of corruption leveled against him by the Panthic [Sikh religious] committee and some militant organizations. In his letter of resignation to the senior vice president of the party, Mr. Tarlok Singh, he said he is doing so to avoid any controversy in the party regarding him.

Minister Discusses Cambodia With Thai Delegation

BK2008164290 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] India has called for a solution to the Cambodian issue which will fully ensure the sovereignty of Cambodia and facilitate its economic reconstruction. This was conveyed by the minister of state for external affairs, Mr. Harikishore Singh, to a visiting Thai delegation in New Delhi today. He appreciated Thailand's efforts in this regard and said New Delhi will establish greater cooperation with ASEAN countries. Mr. Singh thanked the oil-producing ASEAN countries for agreeing to provide India additional oil to meet the acute shortage following the Gulf crisis.

Iran

Habibi Claims National 'Control' of Gulf

LD2108125790 Tehran IRNA in English 1005 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Shahr-e Kord, Chahar Mahal-Bakhtiari Prov., Aug. 21, IRNA—First Vice-President Hasan Habibi Monday condemned the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and called for withdrawal of Iraqi forces from Kuwait.

"Control of the Persian Gulf is with Iran because of Iran's long border and foreign forces must not be present

in the Persian Gulf region," said Habibi who is currently here to attend a provincial development seminar.

Addressing gatherings of local people here, he stressed that internationally-recognized borders must be respected.

Habibi also inspected the 50-million-cubic-meter Chagha Khur Dam which is under construction. The cost of the project is estimated at rls. one billion (dlrs. 14.28 million).

Kuwait Realizes 'Grave Mistake' of Supporting Iraq

LD2108125290 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1102 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Greetings, dear listeners. Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah announced in Paris that he would soon be leaving for Tehran. The Kuwaiti minister's upcoming visit is part of high-ranking Kuwaiti officials' extensive political efforts to reestablish the Kuwaiti Government's political sovereignty. In these ongoing efforts, Kuwaiti officials have so far visited several Arab, regional, and Western countries, and have had talks with the countries' officials about the economic and military sanctions against Iraq and the intensification of diplomatic pressure on that country.

In the meetings, countries such as Turkey and Jordan, which will suffer economic losses as a result of the sanctions imposed on Iraq, have asked for financial assistance from the shaykhdoms of the Persian Gulf, especially Kuwait, and appropriate promises have been given in that regard.

At any rate, the Kuwaiti foreign minister's expected visit to Iran is of considerable importance for Kuwaiti officials, because Kuwaiti territory is currently occupied by Iraqi forces, and the reestablishment of that country's independence and political sovereignty depends on the collective assistance and cooperation of the region's countries, especially the Islamic Republic of Iran, which from the point of view of strength, population, and size, is the largest country in the Persian Gulf region.

Our country's relations with Kuwait have witnessed many ups and downs since the start of the imposed war until now. And in that regard, our country's foreign policy in the past and at present has been very principled and patient, as admitted by a majority of regretful countries. A comparison of the foreign policies of Iran and Kuwait in the face of aggression demonstrates that fact. When Iraq attacked Iran, Kuwait, politically supporting the aggression, gave financial assistance to the aggressor and it placed its ports, economic resources, and its political influence at Iraq's disposal. Now that Kuwait has been invaded by its former ally, the Islamic Republic of Iran has condemned the aggressor without hesitation, without acrimony, and in keeping with reason and international principles, and it has demanded the reestablishment of that country's sovereignty.

Of course, it must be said that Kuwaiti officials have recognized their grave mistake. Two weeks ago the Kuwaiti amir referred to the fact that his country had made a mistake in its stance on the war and on Iraq, and he confessed with an apologetic tone that throughout the imposed war Kuwait gave $14 billion worth of financial assistance to Iraq.

The bitter truth, which Kuwaiti officials have only now recognized, has cost our country a great deal. The billions-strong financial assistance of Kuwait and other Persian Gulf littoral states kept the ruinous flames of the imposed war burning for eight years, and that fire inflicted heavy human casualties and damage estimated at several hundred billion dollars on our nation. Now that Kuwaiti officials have recognized their mistakes and have extended their hands in a plea for assistance to the Islamic Republic of Iran, they are undoubtedly thinking about how they can make up for their great mistake. The Islamic Republic of Iran, which has continuously respected the political sovereignty of the countries of the region, is asking for the reestablishment of Kuwaiti political sovereignty, the withdrawal of Iraqi forces from that country, and the simultaneous withdrawal of U.S. forces from the region. This is because experience has shown that aggression cannot be resolved with aggression, and the resolution of the current crisis is only possible through the efforts and cooperation of the countries of the region and the United Nations.

Karrubi Condemns U.S. Presence, Iraqi Invasion

LD2108114890 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Excerpt] During today's open session of the Islamic Majles, the speaker, while condemning the U.S. military presence in the Persian Gulf, stressed that the United States will not reach its objectives in the Persian Gulf, thanks to the vigilance of the Muslims. Our correspondent reports on the remarks made by the speaker of the Islamic Majles and the proceedings of today's Majles open session:

[Unidentified correspondent] During this morning's open session of the Islamic Majles, chaired by Mr. Karrubi, the speaker of the Majles, condemned the U.S. military presence in the Persian Gulf region. Referring to America's intentions and objectives emanating from its presence in the region, he stressed: The United States seeks only its own interests, but thanks to the vigilance of the Muslims, the United States will not reach its objectives.

Referring to the logical stand of the Islamic Republic of Iran [IRI] in the face of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, the speaker of the Islamic Majles said: Despite the fact that the Kuwaiti Government, according to its own confession, offered the greatest assistance to Iraq in the course of the [Iran-Iraq] war, nevertheless the Government of Iran, because of its commitment to Islamic principles, condemns the element of aggression against any country.

Mr. Karrubi added: We announce explicitly that Iraq's aggression against Kuwait is condemned, and we maintain this view as a general principle. We condemn any aggression in whatever form.

Continuing his speech, the speaker of the Islamic Majles praised the responsible officials of the IRI for their efforts which have led to the Iraqi acceptance of the 1975 treaty. He said: Iraq's move was a positive step toward removing the obstacles and toward reaching a comprehensive and lasting peace in the region.

In conclusion, the speaker of the Islamic Majles said: At last, after 18 years, the Iranian nation witnesses the outcome of its patience, steadfastness, and resistance. It has achieved its righteous demands victoriously. [passage omitted]

Majles Deputies See U.S. Moves as 'Challenge'

LD2108164190 Tehran IRNA in Engish 1422 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 21, IRNA—In pre-agenda speeches at the first meeting of the Majlis at the conclusion of its one-month summer recess Tuesday Majlis deputies inveighed against the U.S. saying the American forces are in the region not simply to threaten Iraq but mainly to challenge Iran.

They said the presence of the U.S. troops in the Persian Gulf and in Saudi Arabia is also a reflection of the many problems the U.S. has at home and elsewhere in the world.

Tehran deputy Ebrahim Asgharzadeh said: "As a superpower the United States has to transfer its problems at home, such as its deficit of payments, to the Third World countries...The current world developments as well as a burgeoning united Europe has prompted the U.S. to seek new strategic locations for a foothold. The occupation of Kuwait by Iraq offered the U.S. simply an excuse for trying to play a more important role in the Persian Gulf...The action by the U.S. like that of Iraq is one of aggression. Should the U.S. entangle itself in a confrontation with Iraq it will try to involve the armies of the Muslim nations of the region rather than face a direct encounter with Iraq...The U.S. is trying to engage the armies of the regional countries for shattering the military machinery of Iraq.

"The goals of the United States are against the best interests of the Islamic Republic of Iran...The policies adopted by the responsible officials of the state have thus far been wise. Here we have an opportunity to try our independent policies in the region."

Deputy from Babolsar Mohammad Majdara said on the same topic: "The U.S. aggression against the region and the presence of its forces in Saudi Arabia would serve the goals of the Zionists. That is a plot which should be neutralized at its embryonic stage...Under the circumstances the most pressing task would be for us to safeguard our unity around the main line of leadership. We must make an effort to boost the capacity of our armed forces and defend our dignity and honor."

Deputy from Qom Sadeq Khalkhali said: "The military aggression of the United States against the Persian Gulf is condemnable. The U.S. forces are present in the region for the same reason that they were present in Vietnam. The U.S. must have learned a lesson from its experience in Vietnam. It must realize that the people of Iraq can give a due reply to that aggression by the U.S...The U.S. is not showing its teeth and claws only to the people of Iraq. The Iranians, too, must prepare themselves for a confrontation with the U.S.

Mahmoud, Astaneh deputy from Sarband of Arak said: "The people of Iran recognize the U.S. as the number one enemy of the Muslim nations of the world. The security of the Persian Gulf and the region is no business of the United States...

"In the course of peace talks (with Iraq) we should proceed in a manner to ensure that we will not witness a new confrontation with that country."

Paper Terms U.S. Gulf Build-up 'Untolerable'

LD2108161490 Tehran IRNA in English 1257 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 21, IRNA—A Persian daily in its Tuesday's editorial castigated the U.S. military build-up in the Persian Gulf as a "hated, untolerable and dangerous" event.

'ETTELA'AT' said "Pressing Saddam Husayn's government to withdraw from Kuwait is not something to be done by the Americans."

"It is very ridiculous for the Americans whose hands are still stained with the invasion of Panama to come here to press Iraq which has launched an aggression against the Panama of the Persian Gulf, i.e. Kuwait," it said.

The daily said a question the Americans should answer is "when the U.S. attacked Panama in cold blood did it permit other countries of the world such as Europeans, Asians and Africans to form a united front and dispatch military forces there to defend its independence? Or did it give such a permission to Latin American states?"

The unprecedented and widespread U.S. military expedition in the Persian Gulf and the obstinate operations of its army have gone far beyond what should have been done by all countries under the supervision of the United Nations and Security Council members, it said.

It warned that the U.S. should be worried about the consequences of its own obstinate actions and should claim responsibility for any conflagration in this sensitive oil and gas rich region which has been turned into a huge arsenal in the world.

"However," the daily said, "the coordinated political measures taken by the countries of the Persian Gulf,

Middle East and the Muslim world seem to be enough to convince Iraq of the need to withdraw from Kuwait."

Maintaining the security of the region is a task which should be entrusted to the regional states, the daily said, adding "if further actions were required, they should be done firstly upon a permission from the Persian Gulf states and secondly under the true and full command of an international circle."

Velayati Urges Regional Solution to Gulf Crisis

LD2108173490 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Foreign Minister Velayati referred to the recent developments in the Persian Gulf region and the Iraqi attack on Kuwait, as well as to the presence of the foreign forces in the region. He said: Under such conditions it is imperative that the neighboring countries arrive at better coordination and adopt common stances.

He added: All the regional countries believe that the problems must be solved by the people of the region. The presence of foreign forces in the Persian Gulf is not acceptable.

10,000 Nationals Return From Kuwait

LD2008115990 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Up to this morning, 10,000 Iranians who were residing in Kuwait have entered our country via the border at Shalamcheh. According to IRNA, these people have entered Iran with 1,007 private cars and 20 buses via the Shalamcheh border and they are continuing to arrive. The Khorramshahr commander, in an interview with IRNA said: With the formation of a special coordinating headquarters in Khorramshahr, Iranians who were residing in Kuwait will first be placed in quarantine for health purposes and then they will go to their residential locations and will benefit from welfare facilities in different parts of the city.

Situation Called 'Chaotic'

LD2108130890 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 21 AUG 90

[Text] Following the extensive efforts made by the Islamic Republic of Iran toward the evacuation of Kuwaiti-based Iranian residents from that country, in the past two days around 20,000 of them have managed to return to their Islamic homeland via the Shalamcheh border. We draw your attention to a report by a Central News Unit correspondent in Ahvaz:

[Unidentified correspondent] During the past two days a large number of Iranians residing in Kuwait have managed to enter Iran via the Shalamcheh border. They were welcomed in Khorramshahr by local officials. These Kuwaiti-based Iranian residents, who have returned to our country via the land border, number around 20,000 people, most of whom have returned to Iran in their own vehicles, bringing with them their basic necessities.

A few of the Iranians residing in Kuwait, upon arriving on our Islamic homeland's territory, took part in an interview in which they described the present situation in Kuwait as chaotic. They added that throughout the Iraqi forces' occupation of Kuwait, life in that country was very hard. It is extremely difficult to find foodstuffs, to such an extent that the markets in Kuwait are now closed. The majority of Kuwaiti inhabitants, including various nationalities such as Iranians, Syrians, Indians, and Pakistanis, are in the process of leaving Kuwait.

Regarding the availability of foodstuffs, water, and electricity, the Iranian returnees from Kuwait said that as yet, the people are not faced with any threats of water or electricity shortage, but there are long queues for bread which is a major problem. Every day, the moment one bakery runs out of supplies, the queues shift to outside another bakery. In addition, the gasoline situation is not too good either, and people are resorting to any available means to leave Kuwait for another country.

On the U.S. military presence in the region, these travelers said: Due to the incompetence of a number of the Arab regimes, specifically the Saudis, the Americans have gained a foothold in the Persian Gulf.

Paper Urges Reuniting Kuwait With OPEC

LD1508151390 Tehran IRNA in English 1418 GMT 15 Aug 90

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 15, IRNA—The Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries must try to reunite Kuwait with OPEC, said 'ABRAR' daily Wednesday. It added that if this cannot be done in short term in view of the current international situation, OPEC must convene an emergency session and launch an initiative to help solve the present energy crisis faced by the consumer countries.

The Persian daily in a commentary regretted that the organisation was going to mark the 30th anniversary of its establishment next autumn under circumstances that the destiny of Kuwait, an important and founding member of the organisation, was at stake. It noted that OPEC has so far declined to comment on the event as the developments occurred so swiftly that astounded all OPEC members. However, it added, "all OPEC members, except for Iraq, expect and hope for presence of Kuwait in the organisation."

The paper said that in view of the acute problems the organisation is faced with, "it is not clear what will happen in the absence of Kuwait in the next OPEC session." It added, "if the situation in Kuwait remains unaltered till next OPEC session, what solution will be adopted to secure the OPEC position under the present condition?

"OPEC at this crucial stage of its existence, facing a fresh tragedy, must employ all its efforts to return Kuwait to the organisation in order to further consolidate its solidarity."

The organisation has realised that big industrialised countries headed by the U.S. are and will be in favor of the organisation's disintegration, it commented and added "the recent involvement of the Western forces in the region has been for the sake of 'oil' and nothing else."

The paper concluded by emphasising that "any unilateral increase in oil output by the OPEC members would be an open treason to OPEC'S aims and would eventually be in the interests of the world's oil-devourers and disturb the supply and demand policy and cause price falls again."

Reportage on Iraqi POW Exchange, Withdrawal

Fifth Group of POW's Arrives

LD2108140890 Tehran IRNA in English 1014 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Khosrawi, Bakhtaran Prov., Aug. 21, IRNA—The fifth batch of the released Iranian prisoners of war arrived in Khosrawi border point in this western province Tuesday morning. The group numbering 1,000 were handed over to the Iranian Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). The freed Iranians were welcomed by the commanders of the Islamic Revolution's Guards Corps (IRGC) and the Armed Forces. This brings to 5,000 the total number of the Iranian POWS who have arrived in the country through the Khosrawi border point since Friday when Iraq started releasing the Iranian POWS.

Returning POW's To Receive Cash Award

LD2108141590 Tehran IRNA in English 1203 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Shahr-e Kord (Chahar Mahal va Bakhtiari), Aug. 21, IRNA—Each of the released Iranian POW will receive a cash award of 200,000 rials (dlrs 3,000) in addition to a gold coin and other facilities like basic foodstuffs and clothing according to an approval by the Majlis.

First Vice-President Hassan Habibi announcing the above today, disclosed that a bill has been presented to the Majlis for a further grant of 47.5 billion rials (688 mn dlrs)—besides the 20 bn rials (297 mn dlrs) already allocated—to provide more facilities for the homecoming POWS.

The Majlis started deliberations on the proposed bill today, Habibi added.

POW Exchange Flight Set Up

LD2108164390 Tehran IRNA in English 1519 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 21 IRNA—An Iranian jumbo jet is to fly 500 Iraqi POWS to Baghdad Wednesday [22 August] and bring back the same number of Iranian POWS on return flight to Tehran, according to Morteza Sarmadi a spokesman of the Foreign Ministry here today. He said in a telephone interview to IRNA that representatives from the foreign ministries of Iran and Iraq had met at Khosravi border region Monday [20 August] and "in view of the mutual goodwill it is expected to repatriate the remaining war prisoners within the shortest time possible."

Teams To Inspect Relinquished Areas

LD2108164790 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] The office of the deputy chief of intelligence and operations of the General Command headquarters has announced: Occupied Iranian territories have been relinquished by the Iraqi forces from the military point of view. From the technical and legal point of view, a team will be dispatched to the border so that the withdrawal may be inspected on the basis of border signposts defined in the 1975 accord.

POW Exchange Accelerates

LD2108165890 Tehran IRNA in English 1640 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Qasr-E Shirin (Bakhtaran), Aug. 21, IRNA—The fifth group of 1,000 Iraqi prisoners of war was taken to the Khosrawi border point in this western province for repatriation.

Formalities for swapping Iranian and Iraqi POWs have been speed up in terms of hours. [sentence as received] Initially the exchange used to last four hours while now the whole procedure takes a mere half an hour.

A Foreign Ministry official told IRNA that depending on Iraq's agreement, Iran was ready to deliver 5,000 war prisoners per day.

Iran and Iraq have repatriated 5,000 POWs each since last Friday [17 August] following Baghdad's re-acceptance of the 1975 border accord, Saddam had torn up prior to his invasion of Iran on September 22, 1980.

Velayati Briefs Majles

LD2108180190 Tehran IRNA in English 1735 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Tehran, Aug. 21, IRNA—Foreign Minister 'Ali 'Akbar Velayati on Tuesday briefed the Majles' foreign policy committee on developments pertinent to Iraqi troop withdrawal from occupied Iranian soil and POWS swap. Velayati also presented a report on his recently-concluded visits to certain regional countries and the outcome of his talks with the foreign ministers of Turkey and Pakistan here in the context of the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO).

The committee expressed satisfaction at Iraq's acceptance of the 1975 accord, realization of the Iranian people's just demands and repatriation of freed Iranian POWS to their homeland.

The latest developments in the Persian Gulf and the Middle East were among other topics discussed at the session.

Pakistani Foreign Minister Says Talks 'Positive'

LD2108130590 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Pakistan Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, who came to our country for a two-day visit, left Tehran at noon today and was formally seen off by Foreign Minister Velayati. Before leaving Tehran, in an interview with a Central News Unit correspondent he referred to his talks with Iranian officials as positive. He said that these talks will help promotion ties between the two countries.

He added that the two countries discussed the sensitive issues of the Persian Gulf region, and on this Iran and Pakistan share common viewpoints.

Lebanon's Junblatt Discusses Ties With Velayati

LD1908113990 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 19 Aug 90

[Text] Mr. Walid Junblatt, the leader of the Lebanese Druze and that country's minister of roads and transport [as heard], met and conferred with Mr. Velayati, the foreign minister of our country, this morning. Issues relating to the region and the Persian Gulf were discussed, and Mr. Junblatt requested the Islamic Republic of Iran to extend its cooperation in resolving the problems in Lebanon. For his part, Mr. Velayati, while giving a favorable pledge, reiterated the necessity of expanding bilateral cooperation.

Discusses Support Against Israel

LD2008122490 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 20 Aug 90

[Text] Mr. Walid Junblatt, the minister of roads and transport of Lebanon, left Tehran this morning. He was seen off by Mr. Sa'idi-Kia, the minister of roads and transport.

In a press interview before leaving Tehran, he congratulated the people and the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran [IRI] on ending the imposed war and the repatriation of the POWs to their families. He said: There is no doubt that this is a major victory for the IRI, and it proves that the IRI was right in its political stands from the very start, even though we always wished that this war had never occured in the first place.

Regarding the subjects discussed with Iranian officials, the minister of roads and transport of Lebanon said: Discussions were held in connection with political issues, curent regional developments, Iranian policy in Lebanon, and ways of providing support for the national and the Islamic forces in Lebanon vis-a-vis Israel and its mercenaries in Lebanon. In addition, talks were held with Mr. Sa'idi-Kia on the employment and technical spheres, potentials for bilateral cooperation, and the means by which the IRI can render assistance with regard to road construction plans in Lebanon.

Musavi-Ardabili Delivers 17 Aug Friday Prayers

LD1708144990 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1130 GMT 17 Aug 90

[Second Friday prayers sermon delivered by Ayatollah Musavi-Ardabili in Tehran on 17 August—recorded]

[Excerpts] Today is our day of joy and happiness. It is a day for celebrations. It is a day of thanksgiving. It is a day for which we fought for years, giving so many martyrs, shedding so much blood, incurring so much destruction, putting up such resistance. O you Iranian people, the world should know you today. [crowd chants in support: God is great; Death to America; Death to Britain; Death to Israel; Death to the Mojahedin] We should count our blessings today. For what? For God's reward. God told us not to fear, to go to Him for help, and He would provide us with stamina. [passage omitted] We should be grateful to God for having bestowed such a blessing upon us. We should thank our people, who displayed such resistance, steadfastness, and self-sacrifice, who endured hunger, thirst, bombings, and missile attacks, for the sake of God, and for the sake of achieving a goal. [passage omitted] We should thank the officials or those who throughout that imposed war shielded us with their bodies, sacrificed all they had to build the pillars of the community, under the patronage and leadership of the imam. [passage omitted] They never relinquished their goal. The officials carried on after the acceptance of the [UN Security Council] resolution, and faced numerous problems during the lifetime of the imam. We should know this, in this era after the demise of the imam, remain a grateful nation, and appreciate these officials. Even though this is blessing God, we shall not underestimate our officials who paved the way for this. [passage omitted]

Our imam, our leader, our elder statesman, endured a great deal of agony; he drank from the chalice of poison only to depart to the highest summit before witnessing a day such as today. Such was God's will. May God bless him. We owe everything we ever had, and everything we now have, to the blessing of his existence and to the sincerity of his prayers.

And now what will happen, why has this Saddam entered Kuwait? One day we uttered a word which was heard by everybody. We said: O you Kuwait, you too? I wonder whether the amir of Kuwait still remembers it? He is now sitting idly by watching to see who says what. Let me see what Bush is saying. Is he mentioning me or is he mentioning Arabia only? I wonder what King Husayn is saying?

O God, we told Kuwait what would happen to it. Kuwait lost [Kuwait Bakht], Kuwait has gone. But aggression is aggression; bad is bad; aggression is bad. [passage omitted]

Aggression must be condemned. Our government has declared its policy. That is, the aggressor must remove the consequences of aggression. The aggressor must return. In my view, before Saddam was entangled with America, somebody placed a banana peel in his path. He has now found himself in a predicament. It is not clear whether he can save his skin. The whole world has been incited against him. Now, in the same what that on the spur of a moment he managed to think correctly, saying that he would accept the 1975 agreement, that he would go back beyond the frontiers and that he would free the POW's, and before the world encircles him, he must declare: I committed aggression against Kuwait and now I shall abandon my aggression.

What business has the world-devouring America here? What is it parading about? America has made all the gains. It has dispatched such a great military expedition which is paid for by Saudi and Kuwaiti oil. It will not even cost them a penny. Perhaps they will be given souvenirs too. America will control the oil region. Now America becomes the master of all the scattered places and oil wells previously arranged and divided inch by inch by Britain. [passage omitted] I tell you that there is a one-percent chance of America becoming involved in the region.

America will not become involved militarily. Even if it becomes involved, it will send Egyptians, Pakistanis, Syrians, and others to their deaths. Because if America loses 5,000 people in the region, it will not give an explanation to its people. It will not do that. It will raise a hue and cry, render assistance, launch missiles from far away, and resort to those kind of actions. But if America found a place here, then it would not leave so easily. Therefore, the American military expedition itself is a clear act of aggression. Though Saddam's occupation is also an act of aggression, aggression cannot be answered by another act of aggression.

The United States has one problem—the unity of Europe. West and East Germany have united. France and Britain, too, are becoming bosom buddies and are uniting. The Soviet Union is there too. A united Europe has been created. Does the United States have to think about this or not?

Could it have turned out any better than this? That it should come and sit upon the world's treasure—oil; that it should place its boot on the throat of the industrial world; that it should not even spend any of its money, not a penny; that it should extract the funds from the region, Japanese-style [as heard]. That is what they have done.

The meaning of the matter in a nutshell, the significance of the matter is this: The United States wants to create an oil crisis in the world; to solve the problem of a united Europe in that way; to gain dominance—if it did not have this already—over the world's reserves; And then to address other problems.

Therefore, the best method to adopt is this: Iran has said that it condemns the invasion of Kuwait, that agression is ugly and despicable, that the only possible solution is the unconditional withdrawal of Iraq. Then, one and all should say to the United States: Be so good as to go away, boss! We do not want [you] anymore. It is at that point that the United States will say: What do you mean, go away? It is one thing to ask someone over, another to get rid of him. That is one problem ahead of us. And if it is going to be the case that the United States should sit on top of oil wells in the Gulf region, then the region ought to realize how difficult life is living next to such a savage lion, such a rabid dog.

The key to all that, in my opinion, is in Saddam's hand now. Let them not give others excuses. Let them rapidly withdraw. Let God be my witness: I have no motive in my remarks other than what is good and what is best. In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful.

Velayati Qualifies Meaning of Real Independence

LD1308120790 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 13 Aug 90

[Text] Mr. Velayati, this morning at a gathering of medical students who are studying abroad, referred to the Iraqi military aggression against Kuwait and recent events in the Persian Gulf. He drew comparisons between the independence of Kuwait and Iran which were the victims of military aggression by their neighbor country and said: Recent events have shown that real independence is now achieved by dependence on major powers and on having unlimited wealth; rather it is tied to the endeavors of a nation in trying to identify and repossess its cultural identity. Our country's foreign minister added: Equal relations with the countries in the world does not mean dependence. The progress of the world's nations depends on their relationship with each other. Islamic policy consists of having rational relations with the world and presenting the people of the world with the universal aspirations of Islam.

Mr. Velayati emphasized: Those who endeavor to achieve educational qualifications and who take part in the country's reconstruction will be supported by the Islamic Republic of Iran. The foreign minister in conclusion asked Iranian students studying abroad to serve the country in its reconstruction when they finish their studies.

*RESALAT Report on 15 Jul Majles Session

90AS0302A Tehran RESALAT in Persian 16 Jul 90 p 5

Mohammad Reza Ba'honar: Presence of the Revolution Leader Among Quake Victims Is Reminiscent of Imam Ali's Concern for the Plight of the People and His Efforts To Alleviate Them

[Text] The first pre-agenda speaker during yesterday's open session of the Islamic Consultative Majles was Mr.

Mohammad Reza Ba'honar, the representative of the people of Tehran. In his speech, he offered his congratulations on the occasion of the glorious Id Ghadir-e Khom to the followers of the path of Velayat and Imamat and stated: The heroic and Muslim people of Iran have tasted the sweetness of the rule of Velayat and Imamat. [This has given them] glory and pride to the extent that they have become banner holders of the Islamic Revolution in the world and returned the Imperial Iran, the submissive and superstitious, to the motherland of Islam.

What made the Imperial Iran the center of the global Islamic Revolution was the rising of the Imam as the shining sun in the cloak of Velayat and manifestation of the leadership in the relationship between the imam and the nation. We have had many sources of emulation and distinguished [religious] scholars in the history of Shiites. However, since the relationship was always, and only, that of follower and guide, none [of the sources of emulation] were suitable to wear the cloak of Velayat [ruler of the time] which is the manifestation of Imamat, as was demonstrated in the Ghadir-e Khom. Thus, they were incapable of causing any fundamental transformation in the global political situation—or even in a small town for that matter—based on the fact that the regime of Velayat had been lost in memories. We also saw that Islam void of Velayat is like a coat worn inside out by the tyrannical rulers.

The tyrannical and subservient [to outside powers] rulers adopted titles such as "protectors of Islam," "shadows of God," and "servants of the two holy shrines" while enslaving the innocent in the course of history. They forced upon the people the American Islam in place of the pure Mohammadan Islam. Here is the clear exemplification of the sacred verse of "This day have I perfected your religion..." [Koranic verse] indicating that Islam without Imamat and Velayat is only a beginning and incomplete.

The enemies of Islam and America recognized this as soon as the imam's thoughts concerning Velayat were recorded. They mobilized all their might to discolor the Velayat and separate the imam from Imamat and not one moment did they relent from this satanic behavior, especially after the victory of the revolution.

When it became evident during the drafting of the Constitution that Velayat-e Faqih [theocracy] holds the most crucial and the highest place, they conspired to dissolve the Council of Experts. Even after the ratification [of the Constitution], all grouplets—liberals, the National Front, Bani-Sadr, the Hypocrites [Mojahedin-e Khalq] and all others who had sold themselves—could not hide their anger about the rule of theocracy.

Also, eleven years after the victory of the Islamic Revolution, the 90-person grouplet—the so-called Society for the Defense of Human Rights—in coordination and cooperation with the American Congress and [President] Carter, interpreted the rule of theocracy as the "inherited rule of mullahs." Have no doubt that they will not, and neither should it be expected of the global arrogance, divert the sharp edge of their attack on this pillar of the regime and the bestower of honor upon the Muslim world, the rule of theocracy. Regretfully, and in this connection, similar moves can be observed in the behavior of some of the apparently friendly forces, either as a result of their foolishness and ignorance or as a calculated and treacherous [move].

The speaker then criticized an article published in the KEYHAN HAVA'I and said: In one of its [recent] issues, KEYHAN HAVA'I published an article in which—after an analytical introduction about the impressions developing from the [loss] of the imam and the so called dilution of the role of leadership—[it reflects] the wishes of the arrogance; that is, the forecast of dilution of leadership. [The writer] is so impatient that [he] finally spills his true sentiment and writes: "No revolution can, in the long term, maintain its genuineness without improving the lot of the people. However, the underlying factor in this issue is that, for economic growth and betterment, there is a need for certain ideological modifications. This is exactly what we are witnessing in the communist world."

In short, it implies that with the passing of the imam, the regime of Velayat [theocracy] has been diluted and the need for reviewing the ideology is being felt. In other words, its fate is similar to that of communism. However, in his evaluation, the writer is ignorant of the fact that as the result of the victory of the Islamic Revolution in Iran, socialism lost its pivotal slogan of the past two centuries that said "religion is the opium of the masses." Because of the same victory, socialism failed in its fight against the noble nature of man, who desires God. It also failed because of concentration of the economic power in government and the consequent financial corruption, as well as the destruction of human motivation for hard work and production.

In conclusion, KEYHAN HAVA'I labels as "respectful" the pure sentiments of the writer toward the imam. Despite its apparent attempt to respond to the shortcomings of the article, however, it can be easily said that it has violated the principle of "avoiding disrespect toward the position of Velayat [theocracy] in the official national media." This is regretful since this publication is the sole mouthpiece of the revolution and the intellectual link with the students and sympathizers of the Islamic Revolution in many countries of the world. Thus, it has endorsed the views of the main enemies of the revolution.

Our great late imam humbly stated: "Better to call me a servant than leader." However, Velayat-e Faquih [the ruler of jurisprudence], in the face of the slightest hint of weakening, roared like a lion and would not tolerate the slightest deviation from the definition, even from those closest to the revolution.

In order to safeguard this most noble inheritance of the imam, guidance is expected from the esteemed minister

of [Islamic], as the ultimate overseer of KEYHAN, and from other officials of this newspaper—especially the Media Supervision Commission—to deal with such violations in an effective way and appropriate to the magnitude of the violation so that, God forbid, silence is not regarded as empathy.

In another part of his speech, he pointed out the writings of the BAYAN magazine and said: Regretfully, these satanic and suspicious moves are being observed in other places as well. For example, a man in the first BAYAN says: "Now due to [the demise] of the imam, our revolutionary society is in need of an organization that is not susceptible to political pressures and noise, chants and propaganda bombardments of foreign voices—which, regretfully, have the most devastating effects on the decisions of decisionmakers and policies of politicians—can provide correct analysis of political, cultural, economic, and social issues of the Islamic World and others."

These words come from a man who knows well that determination of the framework for the regime's major policies, according to the Constitution and our beliefs as Shiites, are duties of the jurisprudence. On the other hand, in several of his speeches, this man has expressed his sincerity toward the leader and his pride in adhering to his orders. Accepting so much forgetfulness may be difficult but it is not impossible.

In another part of his remarks [in BAYAN] the guidance of the Guardian is placed next to the views of someone like myself, and by calling it "Viewpoints" in an absolute way he explains that: "Discussing viewpoints does not necessarily indicate their endorsement or rejection." Is this also a result of forgetfulness of the official in charge? [We hope] that it is so. We hope that such flagrant deviations are corrected in the author's future writings and that he expresses his regret and apologizes to the Guardian as well as the Islamic nation. This is to avoid the impression that the views of the gentleman resemble the type of Islam that is favored by America. There should be no doubt that in case of a dilution of the regime of guardianship, America will be happy even with this government and this Majles. In this regard, the wise statements of our late Imam appear before the eye and clings to the heart, [he] who said to His Eminence Ayatollah Meshkini: "Please tell my revolutionary children that radicalism does not produce goodness. If they are not absorbed in societies of the esteemed jurists, in the future they will fall prey to those who propagate the American Islam."

Concerning the valuable presence of the exalted leader of the Islamic Revolution among the quake victims Mr. Ba'honar said: The presence of the exalted leader of the Islamic Revolution among the afflicted as a result of the earthquake is heartwarming and causes happiness and pride among the Islamic nation. This is a very suitable, soothing remedy on the wounds of the afflicted. It reminded all of the tears of Ali (A) [Peace Be Upon Him] upon the innocence of the people and his efforts to alleviate their problems. This is what is to be expected from the successor of the Lord of the Pious and the representative of the Absent Imam (AJ) [May God Speed His Appearance]. May God maintain his blessed shadow over the heads of the innocent Muslims of the world.

In his remarks he also added: The organized and rapid assistance of the government to the afflicted by this calamity and the selfless giving of the people as always, and the humanitarian actions of nations and foreign governments without political concerns is commendable and appreciated.

It is necessary that the government of Mr. Hashemi Rafsanjani, carry out the rapid implementation of temporary housing before the cold season, and do so in such a way that the building materials used for the temporary housing is not for a one-time use only, so that after the completion of the task, it may be collected and re-used in other similar situations.

Second, the studies of comprehensive plans, soil tests and scientific and logical expansion of villages, along with the best use of inherent forces in this fertile region of our country which has agricultural and animal husbandry characteristics, should not be disregarded in the design and implementation of reconstruction plans. Although this is a possible temporary placement, the quality of reconstruction should not be sacrificed for the sake of speed and action.

In another part of his remarks, the representative of the people of Tehran referred to the government's economic policies and said: Although economic, monetary, and banking government policies may be criticized in some instances, the fundamental measures toward correcting the economy's structure and the creation of production activities is commendable. The apparent increase in production during the past year, the declining trend during the Five-Year Plan of borrowing and reducing the foreign exchange rate from 30 and up to 50 percent down to six percent during the past year, the collection of over 100 billion tomans of unstable currency and practical encouragement regarding the expansion of exports, are activities that will leave their mark on the society. At any rate, some dust may rise during the razing for the reconstruction of any building. Cries and complaints about the dust is the sole specialty of those who nag.

As an example, over five million people sustain themselves through rug-making, which is a major export item. For every rug-weaving loom, nearly thirty other jobs are created. The recent decision of the government to increase the price of foreign exchange for exports, will increase the income of a rug-maker who is among the most deprived element in the society.

It [will be] such that the hourly income of a skilled rug-weaver [will become] higher than the average salary of a government employee, a high school teacher, or even a shop owner. However, in this manner some will earn from good to high incomes with little effort. This is a

giant step in the realization of social justice in conjunction with economic expansion.

It also becomes clear that economic expansion in many instances is congruent with the spread of social justice. Next to this issue there is also a negative side. The price of exportable rugs will rise in the domestic market, but this [discomfort] must be endured. Here the difference in approach is that complainers will complain that the price of rugs have gone up.

If we wish to increase the export of non-oil goods, one of the ways is to expand the export of goods of which we have a monopoly; such as rugs, pistachios, saffron, caviar and...

The problem of agriculture may be resolved with slogans overnight; also, in the language of slogan-makers it may be possible to curse 15,000 billion [rials] worth of deficit and add to it on a daily basis. But a working government can reduce a percentage of it annually.

In the language of the slogan-makers it is possible to verbally clash with the idea of borrowing from the banking system and add a few billion every year. But in a working government, based on the approved plan, five years is needed to reduce the debt to zero and [deal with] other such matters that are not relevant to this discussion.

Mr. Ba'honar remarked: This matter must be brought up because there are some economic bottlenecks and sluggishness in the process of reforms and some mistakes do exist. These are the results of many factors such as the lack of consultations and exchange of views with experts in the matter and with university professors along with limiting major decisions within small groups and [operating] with incomplete analysis.

Another reason is lack of conviction on the part of some of the executives in the second and third echelons towards the adopted policies by the Majles and the government. Despite great respect for the piety of the majority of these officials, i.e., deputy ministers, managing directors of large government companies, director generals, governor generals, banking officials and others, it is possible that some, as a result of not believing in the policies, may be slow in the implementation of their work and, God Forbid, instead of oiling the wheels of the economy, they may throw a wrench in them. This factor necessitates a serious and precise reevaluation of appointments and possible changes.

He concluded by saying: While appreciating the decisiveness of the judicial system concerning the investigation of criminal cases and financial corruption, for the indictment of [the likes of] Sharifiyon, it is necessary that the Islamic Consultative Majles act expeditiously to define and determine punishments for economic terrorists in order that the judicial system has an open hand to bring these corrupt [individuals] to trial and sentence them to the most severe punishments.

Malayer Deputy: For Once the Regime Must Utilize the Sword of Justice in Place of Heedless Advice

Mr. Abdullah Nowruzi, the representative of the people of Malayer, was the second and last pre-agenda speaker during yesterday's open session of the Islamic Consultative Majles. At the onset, while presenting his greetings to the holy spirit of Imam Khomeyni, he congratulated the exalted leadership and the Iranian people on the occasion of Id Ghadir. He also prayed for the souls of the quake victims and the late Mr. Eftekhari, the representative of the people of Fowman, in the Islamic Consultative Majles.

Referring to the recent trip of Mr. Karrubi to Hamedan Province, after thanking him, he remarked: Hamedan Province is a receptive and suitable area for various undertakings such as manpower training, agriculture, animal husbandry, industry, and mining. So far, regretfully—as statistics show—not much attention have been paid to it. I say with confidence that any rudimentary investment—such as the creation and expansion of universities, harnessing waters and supporting the agriculture, industry and mining—would bear immediate fruit while it would require low amortization.

In this regard I thank the esteemed speaker of the Majles for issuing the appropriate orders aimed at [enhancing] the [economic] growth and expanding the province. Also, following the written invitation, I extended the same invitation to the president to visit Hamedan Province.

Mr. Nowrouzi then thanked the chief of the judiciary for talking legal suits to the international tribunals against those who have acted in treacherous ways toward the sacred shrines (and have repeatedly violated their sanctity). He expressed hope that such actions will result in the cleansing of Kaabah from the filth of these [which may be likened to] Abu-Lahab and Abu-Sofian [enemies of the Prophet].

The speaker continued to emphasize: It is clear to all, even to our enemies, that officials of the regime and high level, as well as middle management have dedicated their lives to run the country and alleviate the needs and difficulties of the people. On the other hand, as history testifies, there have been none or few nations more dedicated and loyal [than our nation]. What is certain is that, if the potential of these two dedicated and constructive factors can be combined to interact without any hindrances, all the destructions resulting from hundreds of years of rule by pleasure-seeking Qajar and Pahlavi kings and the imposed war will be corrected. Also, it will cause the Islamic and Iranian creativity and ingenuity to boost the country in the areas of reconstruction and economy.

The [question is], why has some of this energy been wasted and has not had a high output. I believe the profiteer, middlemen, obstructive elements, and foreign agents—no matter how small in number—are the main culprits. If for once our regime conducts a complete and correct analysis of these obstructions and hindrances and the elements responsible for them, and decide, God

willing, to utilize the sword of justice of Ali (A) in lieu of the repetitious and useless weapon of advice then the effects of a desirable connection between officials and the people will appear in all fields.

There is one factor that manipulates the national economy which is in hiding and refuses to reveal itself due to its dark and shameless past: the liberals. Although small in number, they exist as nameless, faceless and obstructive elements in the national planning and executive organizations. In the guise of experienced experts and specialists, they feed their views to specialized and pious managers who are entangled in a sea of work day and night and thus impose billions of tomans on national reconstruction schemes. [The problem is such that] executive organizations and their executive arms, such as contractors and consultants, are faced with confusion and disruptions in the smooth flow of work. This have resulted in serious flaws in national reconstruction and if quick resolution [to this issue] is not achieved, more problems will result.

However, a few managers under the influence of that crowd attempt to intensify [their activities]. In order to show that they are successful executive managers, they use any and every scheme, and assign sacred values to such views [of liberal experts]. They consider the liberal's views and decisions to be on the same level as those sanctioned by the Majles and the judiciary (documents and evidence in this regard will be presented in due time).

The expert forces who have gone to the fronts and have given martyrs are fired. In their place those who have received medals and commendations from the deposed shah and have even darker pasts than themselves are hired. The situation has reached a point where they threaten, "to exit from another door if these Muslim kids enter through this door." They are fast trying to put in place their likes in lieu of the dedicated forces in order to—according to the misguided perception of themselves and their associates—control the tools and levers and propagate their outdated and obsolete westernized ideas.

Therefore, as an individual who has spent years in the executive trenches and is somewhat familiar with its tricks and harsh treatments, I request that delegation or delegations composed of experts and specialists who bear good names and have gone to the fronts and who live among the lower and middle class—void of any fear the foreign culture—be selected to study the roots [of these problems] detached from any considerations and present a comprehensive, precise, and correct report to government officials.

In conclusion, the representative of the people of Malayer thanked the officials and the government in connection with their efforts in alleviating the needs of the quake victims and lightening their hardships. He also pointed out to the Ministry of Islamic Guidance that the city region of Malayer, with a population of 350,000 people, lacks even one suitable guest house [motel] and in the past eleven years not even 11 million toman have been invested in the areas of guidance, cultural, and tourist activities in this city. He asked that serious considerations be given in this regard.

Single-Urgency [Provision] of the Plan To Support Higher Production Efforts by Farmers and Tribes Passed

Legal and Majles Bureau - In yesterday's open session of the Islamic Consultative Majles, the Unemployed Insurance Bill was presented with double urgency. After explanations by the labor minister and remarks of the opponent and proponent deputies, the double urgency of the bill was put to vote and was not passed. Consequently, the single urgency of the aforementioned bill was studied and after being put to vote was passed by the Majles.

As the session continued, the "Bill for Correction of 1369 [21 March 1990-20 March 1991] National Budget for Correction of 3 Categories of Credits in the 1369 Budget" was presented with double urgency. After remarks by proponent and opponent deputies and explanation of the government representative, the double urgency of the bill was put to vote and passed.

According to the reports by the parliamentary correspondent of RESALAT, the next item on the agenda was continuation of investigation of the plan for the method of implementation of Principal 175 of the Constitution in the area of supervision. The third article of this plan was passed by the deputies with the following text:

Article 3. The Supervision Council assigned to supervise the Voice and Vision Organization of the Islamic Republic of Iran shall conduct the following tasks:

1. Supervision of the proper execution of all affairs of the Voice and Vision Organization of the Islamic Republic of Iran, giving [it] necessary advice concerning violations and deviations aimed at correcting the said affairs.
2. Supervision of the executive policies designed to be implemented in the Voice and Vision Organization of the Islamic Republic of Iran and announcement of corrective views to the council or head of the organization.
3. Supervision of the proper implementation of related laws in the Voice and Vision Organization.
4. Supervision of the creation or dismantling of any unit, branch, section, office or representative office in the organization.
5. Supervision of ratification of contracts for domestic and foreign purchases of the organization.
6. Supervision of other matters which, according to the law, are tasked to and conducted by it.
7. Regular and continuous reporting of the conduct of affairs within the organization to the exalted leadership and the three branches of the Government of Islamic Republic of Iran.

Subarticle 1. The administrator of the Voice and Vision is responsible for the implementation of the corrective views of the Supervision Council which are supported by the law and is obligated to adhere to the corrective views of this council for correct implementation of the law.

Subarticle 2. The administrator of the Voice and Vision organization and his deputies, network managers, unit heads, sections, branches, and representative offices abroad and all other offices attached to the organization are obligated to extend their fullest cooperation in precise implementation of the duties of the Supervision Council with that organization and put the appropriate documents requested by it at its disposal.

Yesterday Afternoon's Open Session of the Islamic Consultative Majles

The open session of the Islamic Consultative Majles was convened yesterday afternoon and presided by Hojjat ol-Eslam Val Moslemin Karrubi. During the session, the legal plan for implementation of Principal 175 of the Constitution in the area of supervision was studied and the plan was passed by the deputies as follows:

Article 4. In case of disregard to the corrective views of the Supervision Council and failure by the heads of the Voice and Vision Organization of the Islamic Republic of Iran to stop violations, deviations, and adverse trends concerning the organization, the council shall present a full report of violations to the exalted leadership.

Subarticle 1. Reports by the Supervision Council shall be read in a Majles session out-of-turn of its weekly time schedule for the information of deputies of the Islamic Consultative Majles.

Article 5. The government is obligated to allocate and provide the annual credit required by the Supervision Council in the form of aid under a separate category of the annual budget bill.

Subarticle - The credit required by the Supervision Council shall be provided from the total credits of the Voice and Vision Organization until the end of the current [fiscal] year.

Article 6. All laws and guidelines contrary to this law shall be null and void.

Subarticle - This law is enforceable as of the date of formation [of the council].

The next item on the agenda of the open session of the Islamic Consultative Majles was the first round of consultations by the Trade and Distribution Affairs Commission concerning the legal plan for the Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Mines of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Opponents and proponents of the bill spoke in this regard and continuation of discussions was postponed to the next open session of the Majles.

The last item on the agenda was presentation to the Majles, with a single urgency, of the plan to support higher production efforts by farmers and tribes. The single-urgency provision of the plan was put to vote and passed.

Notices by Deputies To Executive Officials

Mr. Za'keri, Quchan deputy: To the Ministry of Power; expediting the construction of Quchan's Tabarakabad dam.

Mr. Rouhanizadeh, Qaem-Shahr and Savadkuh deputy: To the Hygiene, Rehabilitation and Medical Training Ministry; expediting the 96 bed hospital of Savadkuh and Pul-e Sefid Clinic. To the Interior Ministry; expediting the formation of Kiakolah District.

Mr. Akrami, Semnan deputy: To the Ministry of Roads and Transportation; expediting the surveying of the first lane of Semnan-Garmsar road. To the Petroleum Ministry; expediting the construction of gas stations between Damghan, Semnan and Sorkeh-Garmsar.

Mr. Moqtada'i, Abadan deputy: To the interior Ministry; prevention of concentration of reconstruction authority in Khuzestan governor general and delegation of authority to the governor of Abadan and that city's reconstruction official. Expediting the goods needed for reconstruction of Abadan. Expediting the prompt allocation of Abadan's reconstruction credits.

Mr. Qahreman Rahmani, Takestan deputy: To the Education and Training Ministry; converting the Education and Training district of Ziaabad of Takestan to region.

Mr. Movahedi-Savoji, Saveh deputy: To the Agriculture Ministry; formation of the Agency for Expansion of Agricultural Machinery.

Mr. Dr. Sheybani, Tehran deputy: To the president; utilization of trucks belonging to the armed forces, with the approval of the exalted leadership, to transport the essential goods needed by the people, especially building materials, and providing tires and spare parts for trucks which are being used in transportation.

Mr. Seyyed Aliakbar Ta'haii, Tonekabon and Ramsar deputy: To the Ministry of Defense and Armed Forces Logistics; expediting the payment of pension to families of the Armed Forces' MIA's.

Pakistan

Kashmir Premier Calls For Military Training

BK2108052190 London BBC World Service in English 0215 GMT 21 Aug 90

[From the "Newsreel" program]

[Text] The prime minister of the Pakistani autonomous territory of Azad Jammu and Kashmir has announced that all Kashmiris must undergo military training in order to defend the territory against what he said was Indian aggression. Prime Minister Mr. Raja Mumtaz Rathod told thousands of supporters in the capital, Muzaffarabad, that Kashmiris fighting for independence in the Indian part of the state have the full support of his people. Razia Iqbal reports from Islamabad:

[Begin recording] The prime minister's announcement to train the people of Kashmir is a bold challenge to the new caretaker government in Islamabad. Mr. Rathod has already suggested that since the dissolution of the National Assembly, he has been pressurized to dissolve his government. His latest statement (?informed) Islamabad that he is not willing to acquiesce. He is also demanding a solid commitment from the federal government and the international community on the Kashmir issue. Mr. Rathod said the United Nation's secretary general, Mr. Perez de Cuellar, will be invited to visit Azad Kashmir and his government would lobby both Commonwealth countries and ambassadors in Islamabad to support the Kashmiri cause. He said human rights violations by the Indian security forces would be documented and presented to the Human Rights Court in Strasbourg. Mr. Rathod's statement comes on the day the Indian authorities claim that they repulsed an attack of heavy shelling by Pakistan in Kupwara sector on the line of control between the two countries. Pakistan has denied any such attack. This follows an incident last week, in which Pakistan's Defense Ministry said an attack by India in Kel sector, in which India used mortar and heavy artillery, had been stopped by Pakistan.

Speaks at 'Kashmir Rally'

BK2108142190 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 21 Aug 90 pp 1, 6

[All quotation marks as published]

[Text] Muzaffarabad, Aug 20—Azad Jammu and Kashmir [AJK] Prime Minister Mumtaz Hussain Rathod Monday announced the creation of "Kashmir National Bank" asking heads of all the Pakistani banks to stop their operation across the Valley immediately.

The AJK Prime Minister who was addressing the much publicized "Kashmir rally" amidst the high-pitched slogans announced a number of steps including taking full control of Radio Pakistan (station) in the Valley.

The crowd rose to their feet and raised slogans against the dismissal of the Bhutto govt.

Mr. Rathod said the humiliation and injustice which people of the Valley had swallowed during the past 40 years had now become unbearable.

Kashmiris, he said, will not approach Islamabad for money as they are not beggars. He spoke of the reasonable chunk of foreign exchange being sent by the overseas Kashmiris.

The AJK Prime Minister's announcements were lauded by the people, who stood-up several times during his speech. His demand for AJK share in the federal government taxes was spontaneously welcomed by the audience.

Mr. Rathod also demanded Rs. [rials] 450 million from Islamabad as his share in the the Federal Government taxes. He harshly reacted to Islamabad's mounting pressure for dissolution of the AJK Assembly.

"No way, I am not going to dissolve the assembly, he said firmly. Those plotting against AJK Assembly must not forget that they will have to shed a lot of blood before initiating such an ugly action".

Mr. Rathod also made public his future line of action on Kashmir issue assuring the participants that from today he has made it a point to cooperate with all those striving for the self-determination for the Kashmiris. He said military training in AJK educational institutions was a must from today.

His government, he said, would soon take the Kashmir issue before the international jurists. A conference of international jurists was being organised in Muzaffarabad soon to further the Kashmir cause.

Mr. Rathod spoke of the "apologetic attitude" of previous heads of the AJK government, saying the issue could have been resolved had the leaders taken it up in a positive way in the past.

Mr. Rathod said the second Kashmir rally would be held soon in Mirpur, which would also be attended by the foreign diplomats. "The idea behind the move is to highlight the situation Kashmiris are facing.

Mr. Rathod invited all the opposition leaders in the AJK to prepare a joint strategy with him to stop the killing of Kashmiris.

Declaring February 11 as public holiday to mark the deaths of noted Kashmiri leaders, K.H. Khurshid and Moqbool Butt, Mr. Rathod said he has taken it upon himself to do everything possible to unite the people in the AJK.

Mr. Rathod severely condemned what he called Pakistan Government's "double standards", saying if the present trend of exploiting the Kashmiris went unchecked, the people would have to give a second thought to their earlier decision of joining Pakistan.

The AJK Prime Minister announced a number of his government's decisions including establishment of a cement factory, appointment of mayor in Muzaffarabad and renaming the university ground as K.H. Khurshid Mini-stadium.

Remarks at Rally Criticized

BK2208091090 Islamabad Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 22 Aug 90

[Text] The president of Azad Jammu and Kashmir, Sardar Abdul Qayyum Khan, has criticized the statement of the Azad Kashmir prime minister at a rally in Muzaffarabad. Sardar Abdul Qayyum told newsmen in Rawalpindi that at a time when the struggle in Kashmir was entering a crucial stage, the statement was meant at creating problems for the Pakistani Government.

Spokesman Confirms Border Skirmishes With India

BK2208030190 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 22 Aug 90

[Text] In Rawalpindi, a Defense Ministry spokesman has confirmed that there was an exchange of shooting between the Indian and Pakistani soldiers in Kel sector on the line of control in front of India's subsector Machhal yesterday. Giving details of the shooting incident, the spokesman said in response to continuous shooting by the Indian forces in the area, Pakistan had resort to shooting in self-defense. The spokesman said the Indian soldiers resorted to indiscriminate shooting on civilian vehicles on Muzaffarabad-Kel Road passing through Neelam Valley, which is directly under Indian posts and their shootings on several locations. He said the Indian soldiers attacked a Pajero jeep on Monday [20 August] evening, injuring four civilian passengers. Yesterday, they again shot at a bus and an ambulance. The road was closed for a considerable duration in order prevent more loss of life and property. The injured passengers of the jeep have been taken to Muzaffarabad. The spokesman said the sporadic shooting by the Indian soldiers is apparently aimed at escalating tension in the region and at speeding up the mischievous propaganda alleging that Pakistan is assisting the freedom fighters in Jammu and Kashmir.

Azad Jammu and Kashmir Prime Minister Mumtaz Hussain Rathod has strongly condemned the unprovoked shooting by the Indian Army in Neelam Valley.

Jatoi Clarifies Troop Dispatch to Saudi Arabia

BK2208161890 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 22 Aug 90

[Excerpts] Prime Minister Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi has reiterated his government's determination to hold elections in time so as to strengthen institutions and correct the wrongdoings of the previous government. In his maiden speech in the Senate today, the prime minister said that the process of accountability will continue simultaneously with the elections. [passage omitted]

Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi said that the law and order situation, especially in Sindh, had never deteriorated to this extent in the country's history and efforts are now underway to improve it.

The prime minister said that despite increased oil prices in other countries of the world, we have decided not to increase them as it will affect the prices of essential items. We have also taken several steps to bring down the prices of various other items, the prime minister added. We have released a large quantity of wheat for sale in the market and there is no shortage of flour. A downward trend in prices is being noted. The same thing applies to sugar as well.

On the Gulf situation, the prime minister said that we are sending troops in response to a request by Saudi Arabia, with which Pakistan has a defense treaty, to protect the holy places and to defend Saudi Arabia. He assured the house that our forces have no aggressive designs against anyone.

Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi said that the major responsibility of his government is to protect the democratic institutions, the Armed Forces and the judiciary as these institutions constitute the main source of strength for national unity. The prime minister said that he holds the Senate in high esteem and his government does not have any intention of hurting the dignity of the house as the previous government. He clarified the importance of the role of the Senate in upholding the Constitution and continuing the democratic process. He assured the members that he will examine the development funds of which they were deprived by the former government so that they can play their role in the development of the country and their respective regions. The prime minister said that he will see that their quotas of power supply to rural areas are alloted. And if necessary, these quotas will be increased, he added. The same policy will be followed in the case of telephone connections, the prime minister said. [passage omitted]

Premier on Elections, Changes in Administration

BK2108160390 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] Prime Minister Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi has said that the consensus of the political parties, including the Islamic Democratic Alliance, is to provide a clean, effective, patriotic, and sagacious administration to the nation. He was speaking to a gathering of people from a cross section of society as well as to political workers, who called on him at the prime minister' house in Islamabad today to congratulate him on assuming the office of prime minister. The prime minister said that the poor people of Pakistan cannot allow a handful of people to live in luxury while the needs of the masses are totally ignored. He said that accountability is an integral part of democracy and those who are creating doubt about the judicial process are in fact trying to avoid being accountable to the people at the polls.

The prime minister said that after receiving the confidence of the the people, the government would introduce real changes in the system of administration and important policies. He added that, God willing, the people will express their confidence in us. At present we are eliminating the faults and mistakes of the past 20 months, which is our responsibility as a constitutional government. He said that he would not take any unconstitutional or illegal actions. The Constitution and law will remain supreme, but those who have violated the law and have eroded the foundations of the Constitution will have to bear the consequences of their misdeeds. The prime minister said that the poor administration of the past 20 months has left the present government with a system which ignores the needs of the people. We have now started cleaning the system. The prime minister said that the government wants to defeat ineligible and corrupt persons in the

general elections. We know that the people will support us because the responsible Muslims of Pakistan cannot support dishonest and ill-intentioned persons.

Mr. Ghulam Musatafa Jatoi said that the effects of the government's changes can be seen clearly. Bloodshed in Sindh has ended and when we collectively move toward elections, reconciliation at the national level will be promoted further. He said that the workers of the Combined Opposition Parties should become active in taking the message of national solidarity to the people.

The prime minister said that the next elections will be fought on the basis of national solidarity and honesty on the one hand, and on conspiracy and corruption on the other.

Parliament Membership Disqualification Rule Issued

BK2108041490 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] The federal government has issued the Parliament and Provincial Assemblies Membership Disqualification Rule 1990. The rule has been issued in exercise of the powers conferred by Article 11 of the Parliament and Provincial Assemblies Disqualification of Membership Order 1977. This comes into effect forthwith.

Under the rule, the president may appoint one or more persons to assist the special courts in scrutinizing and investigating the records. No such appointment shall be questioned. A reference shall consist of a comprehensive statement on solid facts in which the authority filing the reference is fully confident that there are reasonable grounds that an act of corruption has been committed by the respondent. The special court shall proceed with proceedings from day to day and shall adjourn the proceedings for any purpose unless such adjournment is, in its opinion, necessary in the interest of justice and no adjournment shall be granted for more than two days. The special court shall record evidence in such a manner which, in its opinion, covers an appropriate topic toward a verdict. The respondent will have the right to consult a lawyer. The rule further says: If the respondent does not appear before the special court on the due date despite the fact that the notice has been sent to him or published, the special court can take unilateral action.

Spokesman Clarifies Ban on Visits Abroad

BK1908162590 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 19 Aug 90

[Text] An Interior Ministry spokesman has issued a clarification on the list of people prohibited from going abroad during the state of emergency. Explaining the position, the spokesman said that the list has been prepared to keep certain government employees from going abroad in view of cases of corruption and misuse of powers. The step has been taken to ensure that concerned government officers are present in the country in connection with ongoing investigations. The control of visits abroad has been enforced in view of the current situation in the country, and only a few government officials and politicians are on the list—officials and politicians who can assist the government organizations involved in the investigations. The spokesman added, however, that there is no general ban on politicians and government employees going abroad.

Sweeping Powers Given to Special Tribunals

BK2108164890 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] The Pakistani interim government has given sweeping powers to the special tribunals set up to hear corruption charges against the former prime minister, Ms. Benazir Bhutto, and others. Under the latest notification, the special courts will hold day-to-day hearings and shall not adjourn any proceedings unless necessary in the interest of justice. They have been empowered to proceed ex parte if the respondents fail to turn up.

Minister Criticizes Previous Government Policies

BK2208052890 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 22 Aug 90

[Text] The caretaker federal minister for production, Rafi Raza, has said the presidential order to dissolve the National Assembly and to dismiss the Pakistan People's Party [PPP] government was the constitutional obligation of the president, which was aimed at preventing a national disaster from the disappointing moral and political situation and a state of economic bankruptcy.

Continuing his speech yesterday in the Senate during the debate on the presidential order, the production minister asked how could a president be a silent spectator on the growing corruption and inefficiency in the country and allow such a situatic to go on without restraint. He said it is the responsibility of the caretaker government to prove by action that conditions in the country are improving, elections are held on time, and the process of accountability is carried out without delaying elections. Rafi Raza has said the PPP government had an excellent opportunity in November 1988, but failed in its performance, and the National Assembly was finally dissolved as a consequence. There was confrontation between the federation and the provinces of Balochistan and Punjab. The position of the government in NWFP was known to everybody. The Sindh chief minister was replaced. All this proves that the provinces did not have any administrative freedom and there was interference from the federal government. The federal minister said the law and order situation has improved now. Relations between the federation and provinces are much better now and there is no confrontation of any sort, although the caretaker government has been there only for 14 days.

Answering the points raised by members that the imposition of emergency powers has deprived the provincial autonomy, the federal minister said although the federal government has certain powers, no power was used against the provinces and there is no direct or president's

rule anywhere. Rafi Raza expressed confidence that there would be greater changes with the passage of time. He assured that the process of accountability will be conducted through special courts, comprising high court judges and there should be no fear or misunderstanding.

Referring to claims by the former government on economic achievements, he said in fact the deficit had increased, and credit and monetary expansion had progressed further because of rice and cotton scandals. Rafi Raza said the previous government gave tamgha-i-jamhuriat awards to the armed forces while in office, and three days before 6 August the former prime minister had said there is only amity with the armed forces. However, after the 6 August dissolution order it was alleged that the dissolution order was prepared in the legal department of the Army. Rafi Raza categorically stated that the dissolution order was prepared in the president's office. He said individuals can be criticized but the armed forces as an institution should not be criticized.

The production minister also expressed regrets over the PPP senators on the government's decision to send Pakistani troops to Saudi Arabia to defend holy places. He said it is not a declaration of war as claimed by the PPP senators. He described their statements as misleading. The session was adjourned until this morning as Senator Tariq Chaudhary was continuing his speech.

Commission Calls for Lifting State of Emergency

BK1908163190 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 19 Aug 90

[Text] In Pakistan, the Human Rights Commission has called upon the government to lift the emergency immediately, observing that it will not be possible to hold free and fair elections as long as it is enforced. The state of emergency was declared following the dismissal of the Benazir Bhutto government early this month.

Our Islamabad correspondent, Suresh Chopra, reports that in spite of repeated assurances from the interim prime minister, there are widespread apprehensions that the elections scheduled for the 24th of October may be postponed. Several political parties have passed resolutions urging the government to hold the elections as scheduled.

'Malpractices' Alleged for Bhutto Government

BK1808172190 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 18 Aug 90

[Text] Startling information has been revealed on the approval of billions of rupees of loans provided on political grounds to friends of the former Pakistan People's Party government. Informed sources in Islamabad have said that developmental financial institutions and nationalized commercial banks approved loans for projects due to the political affiliations of the managers of these projects. The Bankers Equity Services approved 14.35 billion rupees for various projects from 26 December 1988 to 24 May this year, and it is considering applications for similar loans amounting to 16.85 billion rupees at present. The sources revealed that a federal minister was given a loan of 294.2 million rupees for setting up a textile mill. Apart from this, a member of the National Assembly from Mianwali was given 359 million rupees for a cotton textile factory. This member was elected on the Jamiat-i-Ulema-i-Pakistan ticket and later joined the government. Nine hundred million rupees was given for a paper plant on the basis of second-hand machinery used in the United Kingdom for 12 years, and 2.3 billion rupees were given for a cement plant in the name of a young son of a federal minister. One of these malpractices relates to a paper plant in the Gadun-Amazai industrial area in which rules and regulations were seriously violated to appease the political (?opportunists). Despite objections by senior officials of the National Development Finance Corporation, the managers of these projects secured loans of 100 million rupees in record time and were about to secure the approval of an additional loan of 600 million rupees.

Bhutto, Party Continue To React to Dismissal

Prevented From Governing Freely

BK1808105890 Hong Kong AFP in English 1038 GMT 18 Aug 90

[Text] Rawalpindi, Pakistan, Aug 18 (AFP)—Former Pakistani prime minister Benazir Bhutto said Saturday that she was never allowed to govern freely during her 20-month rule. "My hands were tied," she said while addressing several thousand party workers after she arrived here from Karachi. "I will continue fighting for democracy and rights of the people," she told the enthusiastic crowd.

The visit was her first to this city since the August 6 dismissal of her Pakistan Peoples Party (PPP) government by President Ghulam Ishaq Khan on charges of corruption and abuse of power. Ms. Bhutto did not specify who had allegedly prevented her from governing freely, but last week she accused the military of helping engineer her ouster, a charge senior army officers have denied.

Party sources said she plans to file a petition in the supreme court here in next two days to challenge the president's order. They said Ms. Bhutto would hold a series of meetings with her aides and party leaders here to devise strategy for the snap polls scheduled for October 24.

Her rivals already launched a campaign Friday by holding the first pre-election rally at the tomb of late president Mohammad Ziaul Haq on the second anniversary of his death in a mysterious plane crash. The PPP's pivotal rival, the Islamic Democratic Alliance, also went into sessions Saturday to evolve a grand alliance of like-minded political parties, party sources said.

People waving the tricolour PPP flag and carrying her portraits flocked to the airport. Despite heavy rain, they

awaited the arrival of their leader for almost two hours. As she emerged from the VIP lounge the emotional crowd shouted slogans condemning President Ishaq Khan's decision. They also denounced Caretaker Prime Minister Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi who succeeded Ms. Bhutto.

Her motorcade took nearly two hours to travel from the airport to the city center as her supporters thronged the streets. Addressing the crowd from the balcony of a shopping plaza owned by her former production minister Raja Shahid Zafar, the PPP leader said despite pressures she had served the country well.

She said she had raised the country's image, convinced the Organisation of the Islamic Conference to support Pakistan's stand on Kashmir and lifted a ban on trade unions and students' associations. Ms. Bhutto charged that the caretaker government was operating under the cover of emergency imposed by the president soon after sacking her.

"This shows they do not have the support of the masses," she said. Party workers who occupied rooftops and packed the city's main bazar raised their hands in affirmation when she asked if they would join her "fight for democratic rights," witnesses said. She implicitly criticized the interim government's plans to form special tribunals to hold members of her government accountable for their actions, saying "we don't need any certificate." "We will vindicate ourselves at the bar of the peoples court," she said amid repeated chants of "Benazir innocent, Benazir innocent."

Chairs Party Meeting in Rawalpindi

BK1908093690 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 19 Aug 90

[Text] A meeting of the former parliamentary group of the Pakistan People's Party [PPP] was held in Rawalpindi yesterday. The meeting, chaired by Benazir Bhutto, the cochairperson of the party, reviewed the national and international situation and the implications of the dissolution of assemblies, and adopted several resolutions. The meeting was attended by members of the PPP Central Executive Committee and several former members of the Punjab Provincial Assembly.

Assembly Dissolution 'Unconstitutional'

BK2108113490 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1100 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] The cochairperson of the PPP [Pakistan People's Party], Benazir Bhutto Saheba, told newsmen on arrival in Lahore today that dissolving the National Assembly was illegal and unconstitutional. She described the allegations against her government about corruption and nepotism as baseless. She maintained that the caretaker government could not prove any of these allegations.

PPP Demands Accountability

BK1808102690 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 18 Aug 90

[Text] Qayoom Nizami, the information secretary of Pakistan People's Party [PPP], has demanded that all politicians should be held accountable without prejudice. Addressing a news conference at the Lahore Press Club yesterday, he said that the PPP is not against the process of accountability.

PPP Files Lawsuit

BK2208102490 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 22 Aug 90 p 1

[Text] Peshawar—Pakistan People's Party [PPP] filed two separate petitions in Peshawar High Court on Monday challenging the order of Aug 6 of the President and the NWFP [North-West Frontier Province] Governor dissolving the National and Provincial Assemblies.

The petitions were filed through Iftikhar Gilani, former Law Minister, and Barrister Iftikhar Ahmad under Article 199 of the Constitution.

The petitioners were deposed Chief Minister Aftab Sherpao, who challenged the NWFP Governor's order to dissolve the Provincial Assembly and Mian Muzaffar Shah, former State Minister and PPP MNA [member of National Assembly], who moved against the presidential order of dissolving the National Assembly.

The petitioner submitted that the grounds given in the impugned orders of Aug 6, 1990, were totally non-existent, vague, fanciful and without any basis whatsoever.

It was therefore, prayed that the presidential and the Governor's orders be declared illegal, malafide, unconstitutional, ultra vires and of no legal effect against the legally elected assemblies and the same may be declared illegal and as such the position as it existed immediately before the passing of the impugned order be restored or any other order deemed fit and proper may be passed.

Former Balochistan Chief Forms National Party

BK1708155490 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 17 Aug 90 p 1

[By Mohammad Riaz]

[Text] Quetta, Aug 16—A national level political party namely Jamhoori Watan Party (Democratic Motherland Party) has been launched without office-bearers.

The formal announcement in this regard was made by the caretaker Chief Minister [of] Balochistan, Mir Humayun Khan Marri, in a press conference held, here at Chief Minister House, this evening. A number of former MPAs [Members of Provincial Assembly] have joined the party and offered their support to former Chief Minister Nawab Akbar Khan Bugti, a prominent figure of [the] new party.

Nawab Bugti was of the view that a new party was needed to fill the political vacuum in the country. He said at present there were a number of parties in the country but their scope and approach was limited. "We have tried", he said, "to provide the people a platform near to their will, and this effort was a start to that destination. He disclosed that a draft of [the] manifesto of the party was presented before the likeminded people in the meeting, which had been approved with minor changes."

More than one hundred tribal chieftains, sardars [headmen], politicians, former MPAs and retired high-ranking civil servents joined the new party.

Earlier Provincial Health Minister Sabir Ali Baloch and former MPA Razia Rab, announced their dissociation from PPP, [Pakistan People's Party] and joined the newly launched party. A former OSD [officer on special duty] to Z.A. Bhutto, Rahim Zafar, accused PPP for neglecting the demands of poor people and vowed that they would strengthen the hands of Nawab Bugti in future.

Cabinet Views Evacuation of Citizens From Gulf

BK2208043090 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] The caretaker federal cabinet has decided to send a delegation to Iraq, Jordan, Saudi Arabia and other countries immediately to review the situation on the spot and facilitate evacuation of stranded Pakistanis in consultation with the respective governments. The delegation is to be headed by the special assistant to the prime minister. The cabinet meeting in Islamabad today was presided over by the prime minister, Mr. Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi. An initial allocation of 50 million rupees has been made for evacuation arrangements. The cabinet decided to extend certain facilities to the Pakistanis affected by the present situation in Kuwait. These include a lump-sum grant of 6,000 rupees to every earning member of the family evacuated from Kuwait at the time of arrival in Pakistan. The Ministry of Defense, if necessary, will charter flights of other airlines to expedite evacuation to ensure that no Pakistanis are left stranded. The embassies in Jordan, Saudi Arabia, and Turkey will be suitably strengthened to handle the influx of Pakistanis from Iraq and Kuwait. Arrangements will be made for transit in countries to enable Pakistanis to travel (?over land) via Iran in their own vehicles. Contingency plans will be kept ready for evacuation from seaports whenever feasible. A high-level committee headed by the special assistant to the prime minister has been constituted to regularly monitor all aspects of the evacuation arrangement.

The cabinet also reviewed situation of availability of oil and petroleum products. It was decided that in view of the deflection of supplies from Kuwait, immediate arrangements should be made to procure oil and petroleum products from alternate sources to ensure adequate availability in the country. It was decided to send a high-level delegation to Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Abu Dhabi, and Dubayy to execute all procurement contracts up to June next year.

Paper Criticizes U.S. Deployment in Saudi Arabia

BK1808125090 Lahore THE NATION in English 18 Aug 90 p 4

[Editorial: "Clouds of War"]

[Text] In the wake of a superpower detente and a worldwide trend to resolve differences through negotiated settlements, it was hoped that no major wars would be fought in the world, at least not in the near future. True, the world has not been freed of tensions, rivalries and clashes of interest and a rapprochement between the two power blocs was no guarantee against regional conflicts. But one would have thought that absence of contention between the global overlords whose insatiable lust for power and urge to dominate the world was the root cause of conflicts, will have a crucial bearing on the international climate. And there will be tremendous moral pressure plus concerted efforts to forestall regional disputes growing into armed conflicts. There have been quite a few instances, such as Nicaragua, Angola, Cambodia, etc. of negotiations having been efficacious in trouble spots of chronic conflict reflecting the post-detente disposition. The Middle-East situation has, however, not only defied the emerging pattern of conflict-management, but has also brought the region on the brink of a war likely to have a fallout much larger than a regional conflict. Perhaps men like Saddam Husayn will continue to appear on the scene and unless the wind of change that has toppled authoritarian regimes in East Europe reaches parts of the world where dictators are still in command, nothing can be done to prevent such reckless pursuit of power.

Nevertheless, the Americans, notwithstanding the alibi for intervention Saddam Husayn has provided them, have a track record of brazen bullying and blackmail and no one will buy the theory that their mission in Saudi Arabia is to help a 'just cause'. Since Saddam Husayn is no Noriega who could be toppled and taken prisoner by a token force of marines, the Americans face an uphill task convincing the world that their intentions are honourable and they have come to the rescue of a friend threatened by aggression. To say that Washington has a selective sense of right and wrong is to state the obvious occupation of Arab territories by Israel does not prick its conscience and had it been Israel instead of Iraq threatening to take over Saudi Arabia, business in the State Department and the Pentagon would have gone as usual. The clouds of war hovering over the Middle East have clarly brought home the message that something beyond detente between the superpowers is needed to ensure peace in areas of tension across the world.

Editorial Criticizes Saddam's 'Hostages' Ploy

BK2108141390 Lahore THE NATION in English 21 Aug 90 p 6

[Editorial: "Saddam's Hostage Card"]

[Text] With his back to the wall Saddam Husayn is up to more mischief. Given his predicament he has no choice but to behave like a desperado. And his latest ploy to thwart

retaliatory action against him is to hold back the return of thousands of foreign nationals stranded in Kuwait and Iraq. No words have been minced in conveying to the concerned quarters as to what is the meaning of the move. While the Western nationals in Kuwait have been ordered to assemble in three hotels along with the warning that they and their governments will be responsible for the consequences if they failed to comply, Baghdad radio and TV have justified the action as a deterrent against attack on Iraq. In other words Saddam Husayn has taken Western nationals as hostages to bargain with the Americans and their allies. In a five-point initiative he has called upon the UN to guarantee the withdrawal of all foreign troops in the Gulf in exchange for freeing the foreign nationals. The Security Council has, however in a strongly-worded resolution, demanded that all foreigners be allowed immediately to leave.

Though the Iraqi strongman might argue that everything was fair in war, his tactics to avert the logical consequences of his own aggression cannot be condoned on any count. To hold to ransom civilians, who in all probability include women and children also, is the worst kind of blackmail resorted to by criminals and cannot be under any circumstances accepted as an act of self-defence. Needless to say the man in Baghdad has become reckless and is prone to going to any extent in order to get away with his booty of Kuwait. He has to project himself as a victor since a dictator cannot afford defeat or retreat. But can he succeed in browbeating the Americans by threatening to use their citizens as fodder in battle? Apparently the odds are against the possibility of his adversaries (dead set on teaching him a lesson) succumbing to his blackmail. Saddam Husayn may have more tricks up his sleeves, but he has charted for himself a dangerous course which can only lead to disaster, not only for himself but also for the entire region.

'Relevant Laws' To Apply to Soviet Hijackers

BK2108164390 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] The Senate was told today that the crisis created as a result of the hijacking of the Soviet passenger airliner to Karachi yesterday was successfully solved the same day. The government responded positively to the Soviet prime minister's telephone call to his Pakistani counterpart for assistance. As a first step, through a special exemption in the government's present policy, the hijacked plane was allowed to land at the Karachi airport. Later, the local authorities took appropriate steps for the safety of the passengers of the hijacked plane. The situation was brought under control with extreme care and skill, the crisis was solved within hours, and the passengers were freed without any harm. The hijackers surrendered to the local authorities and appealed for political asylum to the Pakistan Government. It has been decided that they will be dealt with according to the relevant laws in Pakistan.

PRC Nuclear Energy Minister Meets Ishaq Khan

BK1908150090 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1400 GMT 19 Aug 90

[Text] A Chinese delegation led by Xin Yaobing, the vice minister of the Chinese Nuclear Energy Industry and vice president of National Nuclear Corporation, called on President Ghulam Ishaq Khan in Islamabad today to discuss matters on bilateral cooperation in various fields. The president expressed the hope that the pledge made by Prime Minister Li Peng during his visit to Islamabad to construct a 360-megawatt nuclear power plant to help meet the energy shortage in Pakistan will be implemented.

The Chinese vice minister assured the president that China will continue to provide full assistance and support to Pakistan.

Sri Lanka

Iraqi Ship Waits at Port To Load Tea Cargo

BK2208112290 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 22 Aug 90

[Text] Tea exporters to the Middle East countries and the Gulf region met Minister of Trade and Commerce A.R. Mansoor in Colombo yesterday and discussed the difficulties faced by them in the current situation. Eighteen exporters and major tea brokers attended the meeting. The minister was told that already 1,000 metric tons of tea sold at the last three Colombo auctions was awaiting shipment to Iraq. Payments had already been made by the buyer for more than half this quantity, while the balance has been sold on credit extended to four weeks. The exporters also told Minister Mansoor that an Iraqi vessel has now been anchored outside the Colombo Port since last Sunday [19 August]. Port charges amounting to 1.5 million rupees have not been paid in advance. The exporters urged the government to mediate in the matter and allow the ship into the port to enable the loading of the tea consignment. The minister assured them that he will take up the issue with the authorities concerned in the best interest of the country.

The exporters also suggested that the government should persuade the Soviet Union to reenter into the Colombo auctions from which they had been absent for the last four weeks.

Flights Added To Evacuate Citizens in Gulf Area

BK2108113890 Colombo International Service in English 1045 GMT 21 Aug 90

[Text] According to information received by the foreign ministry in Colombo, there are 472 Sri Lankans in Saudi Arabia who have fled Kuwait: 73 of them are in Jordan, 19 in Cairo, 16 in Abu Dhabi and one in Bahrain. Names of the Sri Lankans are being displayed at the Foreign Ministry office for the information of the relatives.

Air Lanka has made arrangements to operate additional flights to Dubayy, Abu Dhabi, and Riyadh on a regular basis until the situation settles down. Air Lanka will operate flights to Dubayy and Abu Dhabi on Tuesdays and to Riyadh on Wednesdays. Meanwhile, foreign employment agencies have expressed willingness to soon provide Sri Lankans stranded in Kuwait with alternative jobs. Representatives of these agencies had a discussion with secretary to the ministry of labor and social welfare, Austin Dias, yesterday.

Delhi Reports Air Force Bombing in Jaffna

BK2208075090 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 22 Aug 90

[Text] In Sri Lanka in a major offensive the Air Force bombed the Jaffna peninsula today. Indefinite curfew has been imposed in the area. The Sri Lankan planes yesterday dropped leaflets over the peninsula warning the civilians to stay out of the line of fire. The indefinite curfew came into force at 0600 [0030 GMT] this morning. Air Force jets started bombing an hour later.

According to military officials, the new offensive is directed at unidentified LTTE [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] targets.

Statistics Detail 1989 Industrial Growth

BK2008141590 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 0916 GMT 20 Aug 90

["OANA/Pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, 20 Aug (LANKAPUVATH)—The industrial sector continued to maintain its growth momentum in 1989, despite continuing civil disturbances, which caused interruptions to production and distribution. The value of industrial output, which grew by 6 per cent in real terms in 1988, expanded by a further 6 per cent in 1989. This growth originated entirely from private sector industry which demonstrated a greater degree of resilience, despite adverse circumstances. The output of private sector industry rose by 15 per cent while that of the public sector declined by 21 per cent.

A spokesman for the Central Bank of Sri Lanka told LANKAPUVATH that according to latest statistics, in the private sector the industrial sub-sectors which recorded large increases in production were textile and wearing apparel, food, beverages and tobacco and fabricated metal products. The sharp decline in public sector industrial output in 1989 was mainly due to production shortfalls in a number of important public sector industries, e.g. The Ceylon Petroleum, National Textile, Sri Lanka Cement, Ceylon Steel and National Paper Corporations.

The value of industrial exports increased from Rs. [rupees] 22,674 million in 1988 to Rs. 28,468 million in 1989. The relative share of industrial exports in total export earnings increased from 48 percent in 1988 to 51 per cent in 1989. As was the case in more recent years, ready-made garments and petroleum products dominated the industrial exports, accounting for about 70 per cent of the total value of industrial exports in 1989. This suggests the urgent necessity for a diversification of the structure of industrial production and exports by shifting to more value added products in order to strengthen the industrial base of the economy.

Industrial sub-sectors that recorded increases in production in 1989 were fabricated metal products (17 per cent), textile, wearing apparel and leather products (16 per cent) and food, tobacco and beverages (12 per cent). The sub-sectors that recorded decreases in output were, paper and paper products (20 per cent), chemicals, petroleum and plastic products (18 per cent), basic metal products (11 per cent) and non-metallic mineral products (5 per cent).